3日間船に乗り続ける旅行に行きました。乗船直後にトイレに入り、船の揺れを感じていると、突然船酔いた。

近年乗り物酔いをしたことのない私は、酔い止めも持っておらず、ベッドで寝たきりに。食事にも出られず、奥さんにサンドイッチを持ってきてもらうハメに。

2日間苦しんだ最終日、なんとか食堂に出て食事。同席した人から「カウンターで酔い止めもらえるわよ」と一言。

いやーよく効くわ、最近の酔い止め……。もっと早く教えてくれ・・・

加藤元浩
KATOU MOTOHIRO

cover design Kraken

C.M.B.
森羅博物館の事件目録
Monthly Shonen Magazine Comics
09 加藤元浩

KCGM 1167

C.M.B.
森羅博物館の事件目録
09
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Welcome to “Wunderkammer”

森羅博物館収蔵 Op.89457
マリア・シビラ・メーリアンの絵画
Anna Maria Sibylla Merian
マリア・シビラ・メーリアン（1647～1717）はドイツ生まれの昆虫学者であり、その精緻な昆虫のスケッチなとから画家としての評価も高い人物である。メーリアンが晩年出版した『スリナム産昆虫変態図譜』は多くの貴族や富豪に絶賛された

Monthly Shonen Magazine Comics

MOTOHIRO KATOU ★ MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS ★ C.M.B.
C. M. B.
BENEDICAT ★ CHRISTUS ★ MANSIONEM

加藤元浩作品

C.M.B. 第1～9巻
Q.E.D. 第1～31巻
以下続刊

ロケットマン 全10巻

この先は入館料が必要となります

09

加藤元浩

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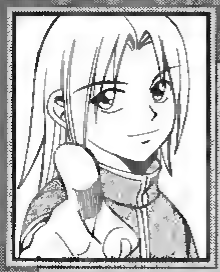
Welcome to Wunderkammer



榊 森羅 *Shinra Sakaki*

小さな林の中に建つ『森羅博物館』の館長。知の象徴である“C”“M”“B”の三つの指輪を持つ。広範な知識と卓越した洞察力を持つ反面、一般常識にはかなり疎い。

七瀬 立樹 *Tatsuki Nanase*

情にモロイが仁義に厚い、イマドキいないタイプの元気印系女子高生。その本性を隠し、良家のご子息・ご令嬢が集う超名門・私立明友高校に通っている。

Op.19

太陽(たいよう)とフォークロア

The Sun and a Folklore

<前編(ぜんぺん)>

★この漫画はフィクションであり、登場する人物・団体・場所・国名等は実在のものとは関係ありません

ANCIENT CITY
CUSCO
HERE, IN CUSCO, WAS THE CAPITAL OF THE INCA EMPIRE
THE SOUTH-AMERICAN ANDES CIVILIZATION BEGAN 4500 YEARS AGO
THE INCA CIVILIZATION, WHICH WAS A PART OF IT, BEGAN THRIVING IN THE 13TH CENTURY, UP UNTIL THE 16TH CENTURY WHEN THEY WERE SUBDUED BY THE SPANISH

HERE, IS THE RELIGIOUS CENTER OF INCA, THE "QURIKANCHA"
AT THE TIME, IT IS SAID THAT GOLDEN CLAD REPLICAS OF CORN, WERE PLANTED ON THE FIELD, AND A FULL SIZE STATUE OF A GOLDEN LLAMA WAS DECORATED
HOWEVER, THE SPANISH TOOK EVERYTHING, AND EVEN BUILT A CHRISTIAN CHURCH ATOP THE ORIGINAL BUILDING
NOW, WHO KNOWS WHAT THIS HOLE IS FOR?
THE ANSWER, IS THAT DOWN THIS HOLE, THERE IS A LARGE NETWORK OF TUNNELS

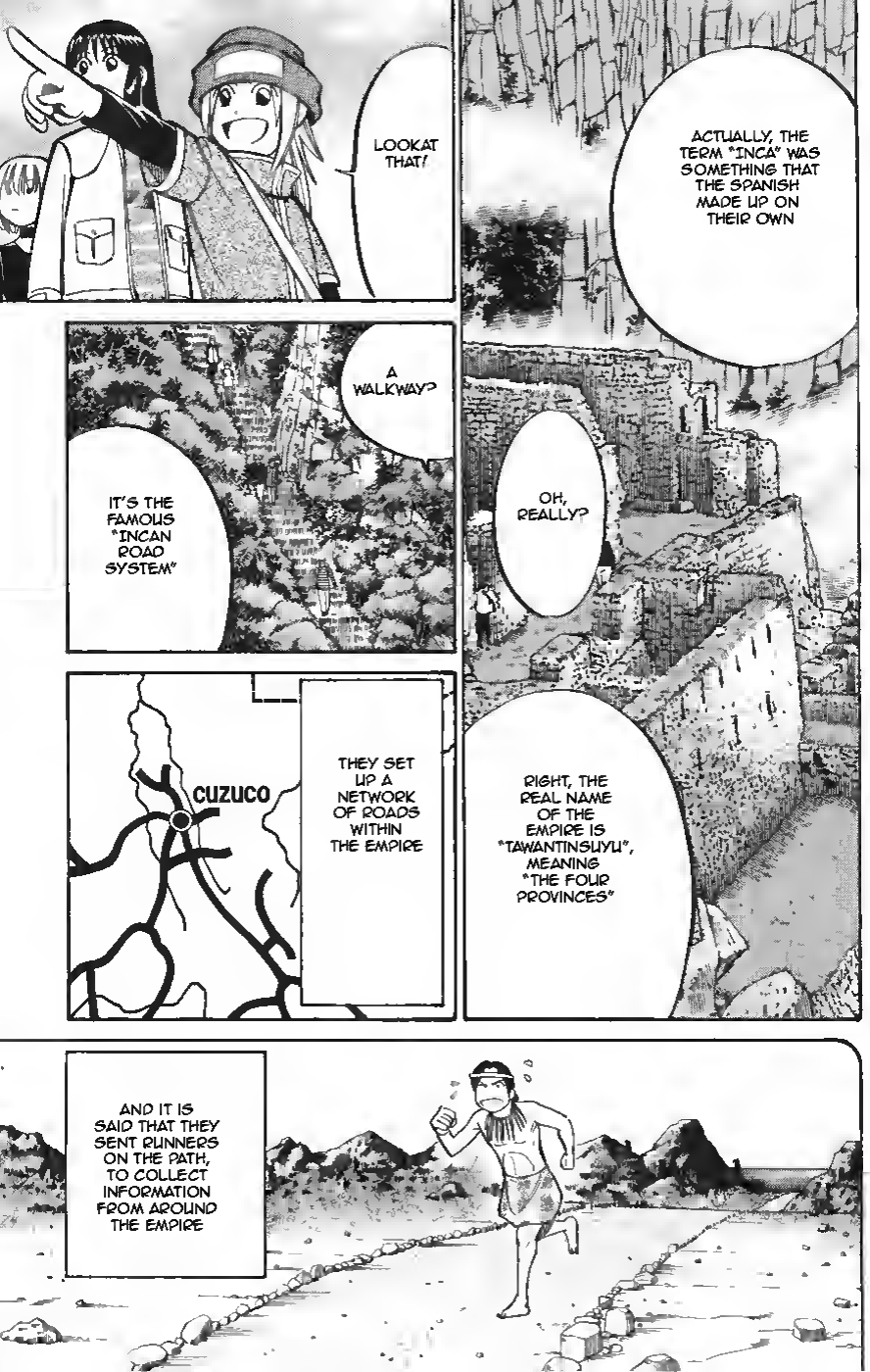
IT IS SAID THAT THESE TUNNELS LEAD AS FAR AS EQUADOR AND BOLIVIA
AND THAT THEY EVEN REACH THE GOLDEN CITY
THE GOLDEN CITY IS SAID TO CONTAIN ALL THE GOLD THAT THE INCA HID WHEN THE SPANISH INVADED...
THESE TUNNELS ARE SAID TO BE A MAZE, TO WHICH SOMEONE COULD NEVER COME OUT OF ONCE HE GETS LOST IN THEM
THE SPANISH, SEARCHED THESE TUNNELS, BUT COULD NOT FIND THE GOLDEN CITY

IN 1923, THE UNIVERSITY OF LIMA SENT 5 RESEARCHERS INTO THE HOLE, IN ORDER TO SEARCH THE TUNNELS
AND THAT ONE PERSON WAS ON HIS DYING BREATH GRIPPING A GOLDEN CORN IN HIS HANDS....
HOWEVER, 12 DAYS LATER, ONLY 1 OF THEM CAME BACK OUT ALIVE
UGH...
EVER SINCE THAT INCIDENT, THESE TUNNELS HAVE BEEN SEALED...
IS ANY-ONE HERE SUFFERING FROM HIGH-ALTITUDE SICKNESS?
IT CAME FROM INSIDE THE HOLE THERE

!!

WOW!
AERIAL CITY
MACHU PICCHU

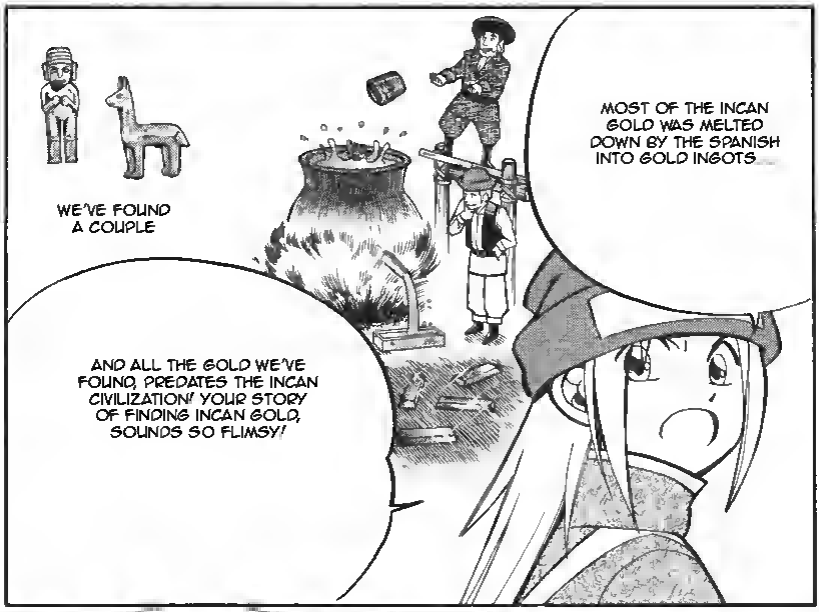
IT LOOKS JUST LIKE IT DOES ON TV!
SERI-OUSLY?
THAT'S ALWAYS THE FIRST THING THAT PEOPLE SAY WHEN THEY SEE THIS PLACE
MACHU PICCHU WAS CREATED AS A VILLA, FOR THE ROYAL FAMILY, AROUND 1440 AD
THERE ARE THEORIES ABOUT WHY IT WAS BUILT UP HERE
ONE OF THEM, BEING THAT THEY WORSHIPPED THE SUN, AND THEREFORE, THIS PALCE WAS THE BEST PLACE FOR THEM TO OBSERVE IT....
AND, THAT WHEN YOU SEE THE MOUNTAIN RANGE FROM THE SIDE
THE RANGE KIND OF LOOKS LIKE THE FACE OF THE KING HIMSELF
WOW! IT REALLY DOES LOOK LIKE A PERSON'S FACE


LOOK AT THAT!
ACTUALLY, THE TERM "INCA" WAS SOMETHING THAT THE SPANISH MADE UP ON THEIR OWN
A WALKWAY?
IT'S THE FAMOUS "INCAN ROAD SYSTEM"
OH, REALLY?
CUZUCO
THEY SET UP A NETWORK OF ROADS WITHIN THE EMPIRE
RIGHT, THE REAL NAME OF THE EMPIRE IS "TAWANTINSUYU", MEANING "THE FOUR PROVINCES"
AND IT IS SAID THAT THEY SENT RUNNERS ON THE PATH, TO COLLECT INFORMATION FROM AROUND THE EMPIRE

A QUIPU IS A NECKLACE THAT CONVEYS A MESSAGE USING THE NUMBER OF KNOTS
THE RUNNERS CARRIED SOMETHING CALLED A "QUIPU"
BUT THEY COULDN'T
THEY SHOULD'VE JUST USED LETTERS TO CONVEY INFORMATOIN
THE INCAN CIVILIZATION DIDN'T HAVE LETTERS

AND SO, THE INCA CIVILIZATION, IS STILL FULL OF MYSTERIES
THAT'S WHY WE DON'T HAVE A WRITTEN HISTORY OF THEIR CIVILIZATION
AND SO, MAU, WHY DID YOU BRING US TO PERU?
WE FOUND SOME INCAN GOLD!
I CAME HERE BECAUSE I OWE YOU ONE, BUT YOU'RE UP TO YOUR DIRTY MONEY MAKING SCHEMES AGAIN, AREN'T YOU!
NOT AT ALL! IT'S A VERY LEGAL AND SOUND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

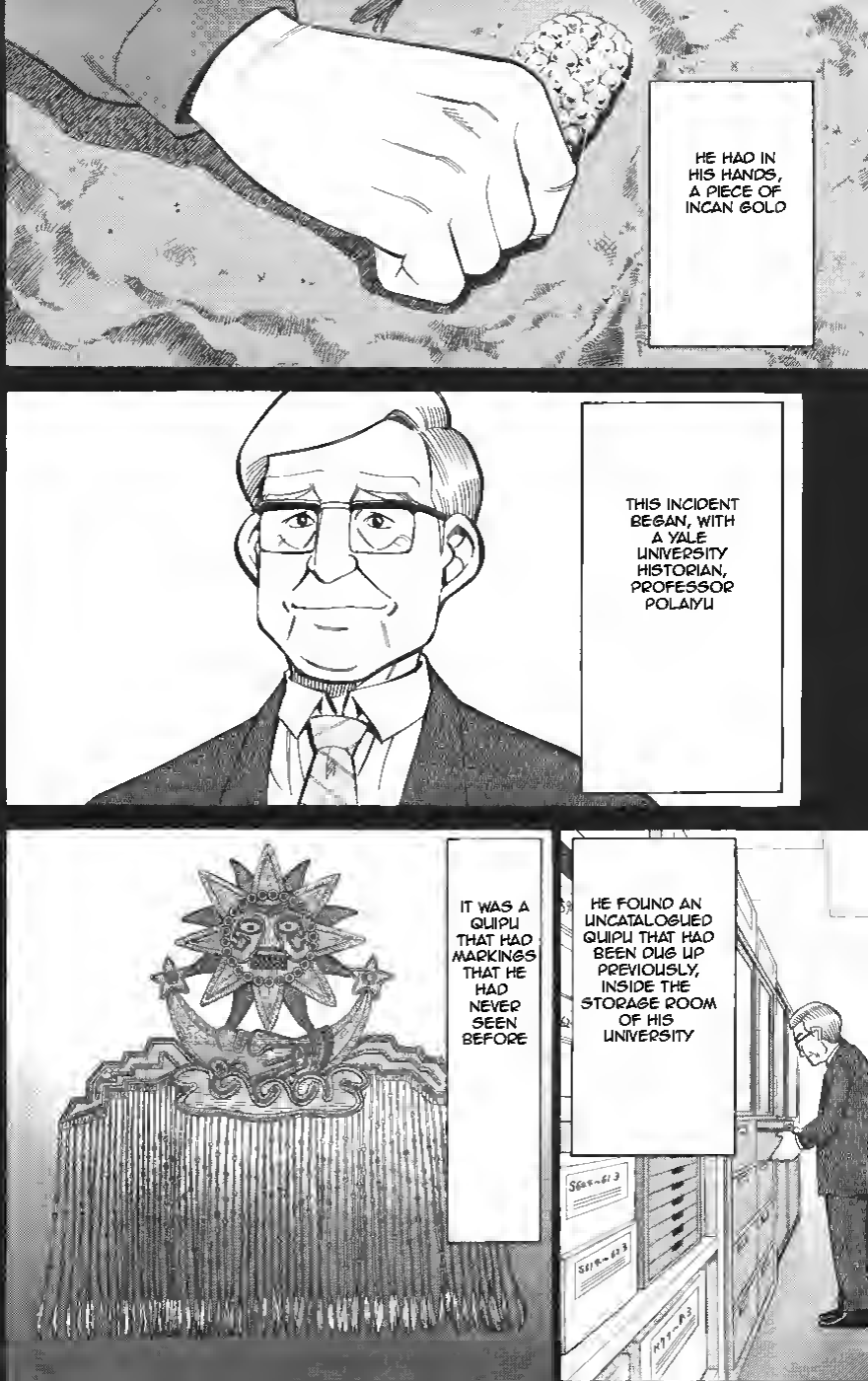
W, WHY!!
HUH?
LET'S GO HOME! MISS NANASE


WE'VE FOUND A COUPLE
MOST OF THE INCAN GOLD WAS MELTED DOWN BY THE SPANISH INTO GOLD INGOTS
AND ALL THE GOLD WE'VE FOUND, PREDATES THE INCAN CIVILIZATION! YOUR STORY OF FINDING INCAN GOLD, SOUNDS SO FLIMSY!

JUST BECAUSE IT'S HARD TO FIND, DOESN'T MEAN IT DOESN'T EXIST, RIGHT?

ARE YOU SURE YOU WANNA GO HOME?

481
481
THE INCIDENT OCCURRED 2 WEEKS AGO...
UNDERNEATH THE TEMPLE OF SUNLIGHT IN CUSCO, A YOUNG BOY APPEARED WITHIN THE TUNNELS
THE BOY'S NAME WAS HULIO
HE WAS A GUIDE FOR THE UNDER GROUND TUNNELS, BUT....


HE HAD IN HIS HANDS, A PIECE OF INCAN GOLD
THIS INCIDENT BEGAN, WITH A YALE UNIVERSITY HISTORIAN, PROFESSOR POLAIYU
IT WAS A QUIPU THAT HAD MARKINGS THAT HE HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE
HE FOUND AN UNCATALOGUED QUIPU THAT HAD BEEN DUG UP PREVIOUSLY, INSIDE THE STORAGE ROOM OF HIS UNIVERSITY

PROFESSOR POLAIYU DETERMINED THAT THIS QUIPU WAS A MAP OF THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS,
AND THAT IT LEAD FROM THE TEMPLE OF SUNLIGHT TO THE GOLDEN CITY
ALONG WITH HIS TWO HELPERS, MARKA
AND SO, THEY ENTERED CUSCO
AND MAISE

SALIDA
AND SO, THEY HIRED HULIO AS THEIR UNDERGOUND GUIDE
THERE IS A CHANCE THAT WE MAY LOSE OUR LIVES
IF WE ENTER A PATH THAT I AM UNFAMILIAR WITH EVEN I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN
IN THE END, THE PROFESSOR LEFT HIS HELPERS AND WENT INSIDE
DON'T WORRY!
PLEASE DON T MISREAD THE QUIPU!

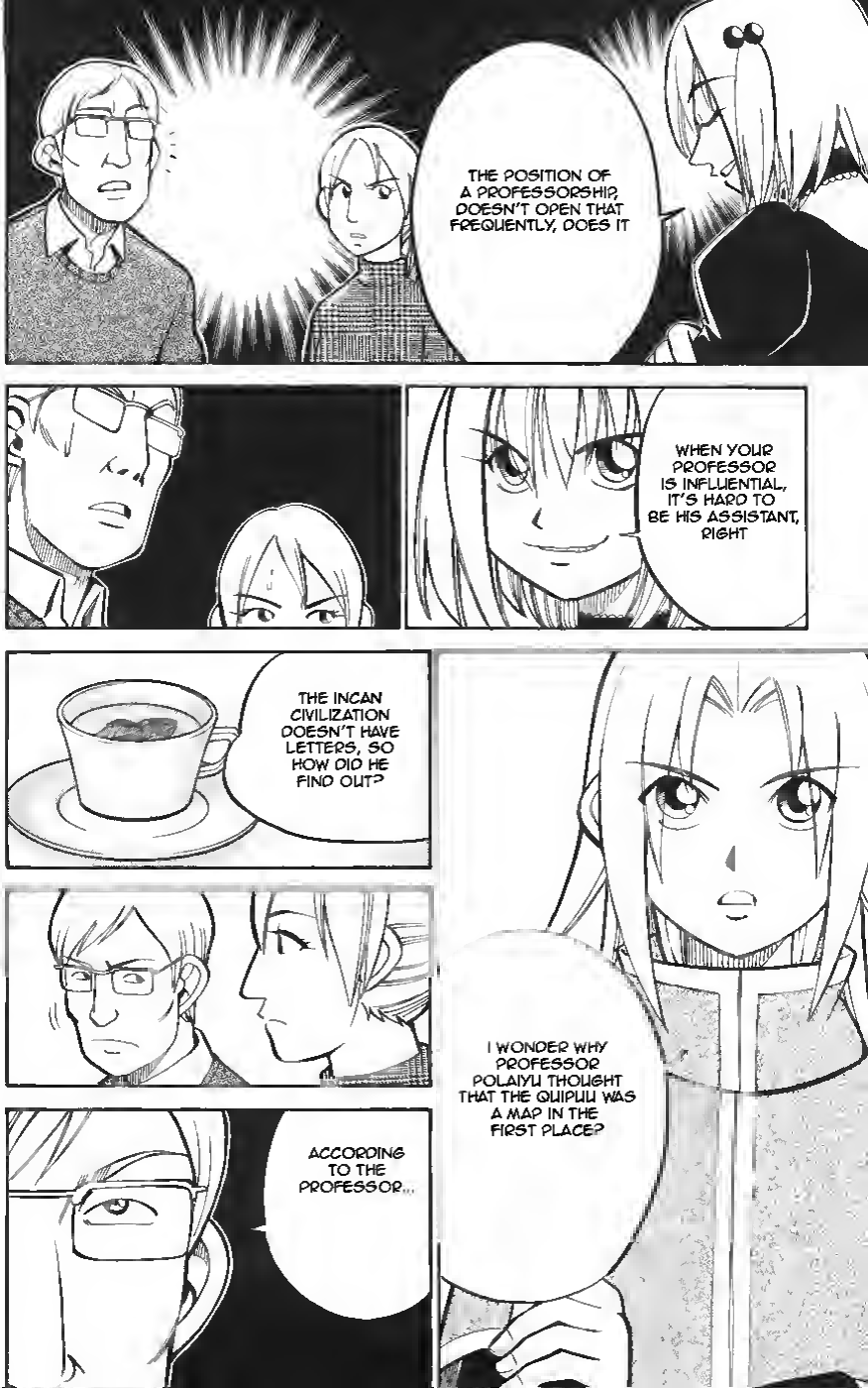
BUT, ONLY HULIO WAS ABLE TO RETURN FROM THE TUNNELS
A LOT OF RESEARCHERS AND THE MEDIA, HAVE ASSEMBLED IN THE TOWN SEARCHING FOR THE PRIZED TREASURE
WE'LL REIMBURSE YOU PLENTY!!
DON'T YOU THINK YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO TELL US?
YOU HAVE TO TELL US!!
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT PIECE OF GOLD FROM?
WE'LL PAY YOU THE TUITION FOR COLLEGE...
I'LL PAY FOR YOUR COST TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL!!
PLEASE, FOR THE SAKE OF PROGRESS OF HISTORY!!

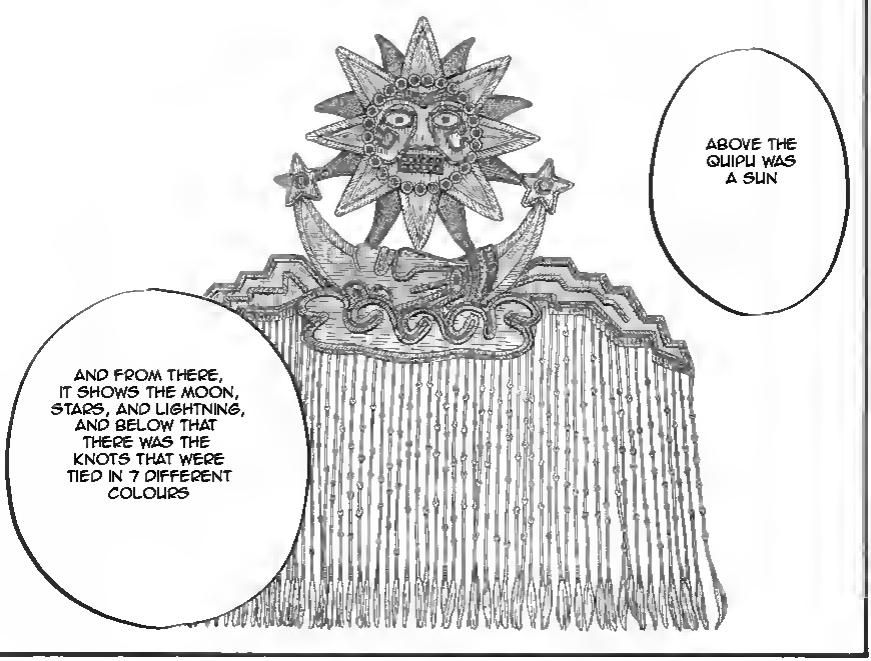
THAT KID LEFT THE PROFESSOR TO DIE!!
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE TWO HELPERS
THE GOVERNMENT, WHO OVERSAW THIS, CLOSED OFF THE HOSPITAL
PLEASE, SEND OUT A SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM, RIGHT AWAY!!
HE PROBABLY WANTED TO KEEP THE GOLD ALL FOR HIMSELF!!
YES, LIKE IT RAN OUT OF BATTERIES OR SOMETHING
THE FLASHLIGHT THAT THE PROFESSOR WAS HOLDING, JUST GAVE OUT?
HULIO TESTIFIES, THAT
BUT THE POLICE COULDN'T ENTER THE TUNNELS SO RECKLESSLY

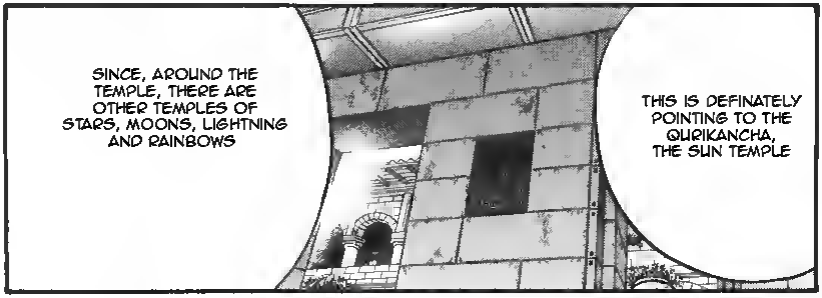
THE PERSON WHO PUT THE BATTERIES IN THE FLASHLIGHT, BY THE WAY, WAS HIS ASSISTANT, MAISE
AND THEN WE GOT SEPARATED.
THE INCAN GOLD MUST LIE BEYOND THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS!
EVEN IF YOU HAVE NO INTEREST IN GOLD, I'M SURE YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED, RIGHT?

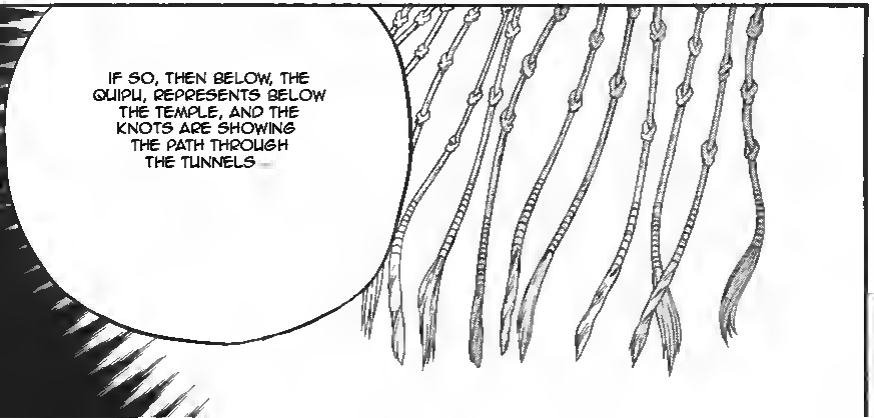
CUSCO
YOU HOLD THE CMB RINGS, THE POLICE WILL LISTEN TO YOU!
HULIO LEFT THE PROFESSOR INSIDE THE CAVES TO DIE!
HE'S AFTER THE GOLD!

I HEARD HE SAID THAT THE FLASHLIGHT RAN OUT OF BATTERIES, BUT THATS A LIE!
I HAD JUST PUT NEW ONES IN
WHY ARE YOU SAYING IT LIKE THAT
BESIDES, IT WAS WRONG OF US TO TRUST THAT POOR KID IN THE FIRST PLACE
WHY AREN'T THEY ARRESTING HIM!
I'M CERTAIN HE DESTROYED THE FLASHLIGHT ON PURPOSE
SO, WHAT POSSIBLE GAIN COULD HE HAVE TO LEAVE THE PROFESSOR BACK IN THE TUNNELS?
BUT I HEARD THAT HULIO GAVE HIS GOLD TO THE CITY


THE POSITION OF A PROFESSORSHIP, DOESN'T OPEN THAT FREQUENTLY, DOES IT
WHEN YOUR PROFESSOR IS INFLUENTIAL, IT'S HARD TO BE HIS ASSISTANT, RIGHT
THE INCAN CIVILIZATION DOESN'T HAVE LETTERS, SO HOW DID HE FIND OUT?
I WONDER WHY PROFESSOR POLAIYU THOUGHT THAT THE QUIPUU WAS A MAP IN THE FIRST PLACE?
ACCORDING TO THE PROFESSOR...


ABOVE THE QUIPU WAS A SUN
AND FROM THERE, IT SHOWS THE MOON, STARS, AND LIGHTNING, AND BELOW THAT THERE WAS THE KNOTS THAT WERE TIED IN 7 DIFFERENT COLOURS


SINCE, AROUND THE TEMPLE, THERE ARE OTHER TEMPLES OF STARS, MOONS, LIGHTNING AND RAINBOWS
THIS IS DEFINATELY POINTING TO THE QURIKANCHA, THE SUN TEMPLE

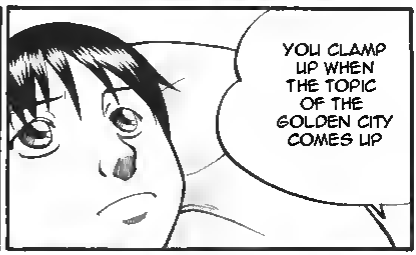

IF SO, THEN BELOW, THE QUIPU, REPRESENTS BELOW THE TEMPLE, AND THE KNOTS ARE SHOWING THE PATH THROUGH THE TUNNELS

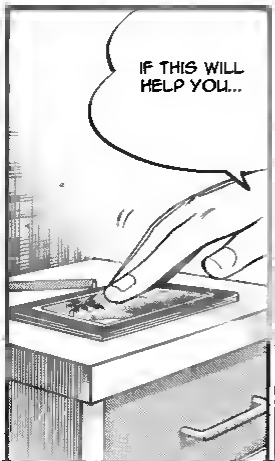
BUT HE SAID IT WAS LIKE A CODE
HE NEVER TOLD US
AND HOW DO YOU READ THE QUIPU?
I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM.... SO MANY PEOPLE COMING TO HARASS HIM, JUST SO THEY CAN GET THEIR HANDS ON THE GOLD!
YOU CANNOT MEET WITH HULIO-KUN!
HOSP

IF YOU GUYS WANT TO SPEAK TO HIM, YOU'LL NEED TO GET AUTHORIZATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT, AS WELL
AND BESIDES, A PROFESSOR JORGE FROM AN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, HAS RECEIVED THE PERMISSION, AND IS TALKING TO HIM RIGHT NOW
WILL THIS DO?
I THOUGHT WE WOULD NEED SOME SORT OF AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO GET IN, SO I REQUESTED ONE
I'TS A PROXY LETTER WITH THE PRESIDENTS SIGNATURE ON IT
WHAT!?
WHAT!?
AS I THOUGHT, THIS GUY IS USEFUL
LET'S WAIT UNTIL THAT PERSON IS FINISHED
800
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
ALRIGHT! LET'S HURRY UP AND INTERROGATE HIM....

DO YOU FEEL LIKE TALKING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED?
HISTORIAN
PROFESSOR JORGE

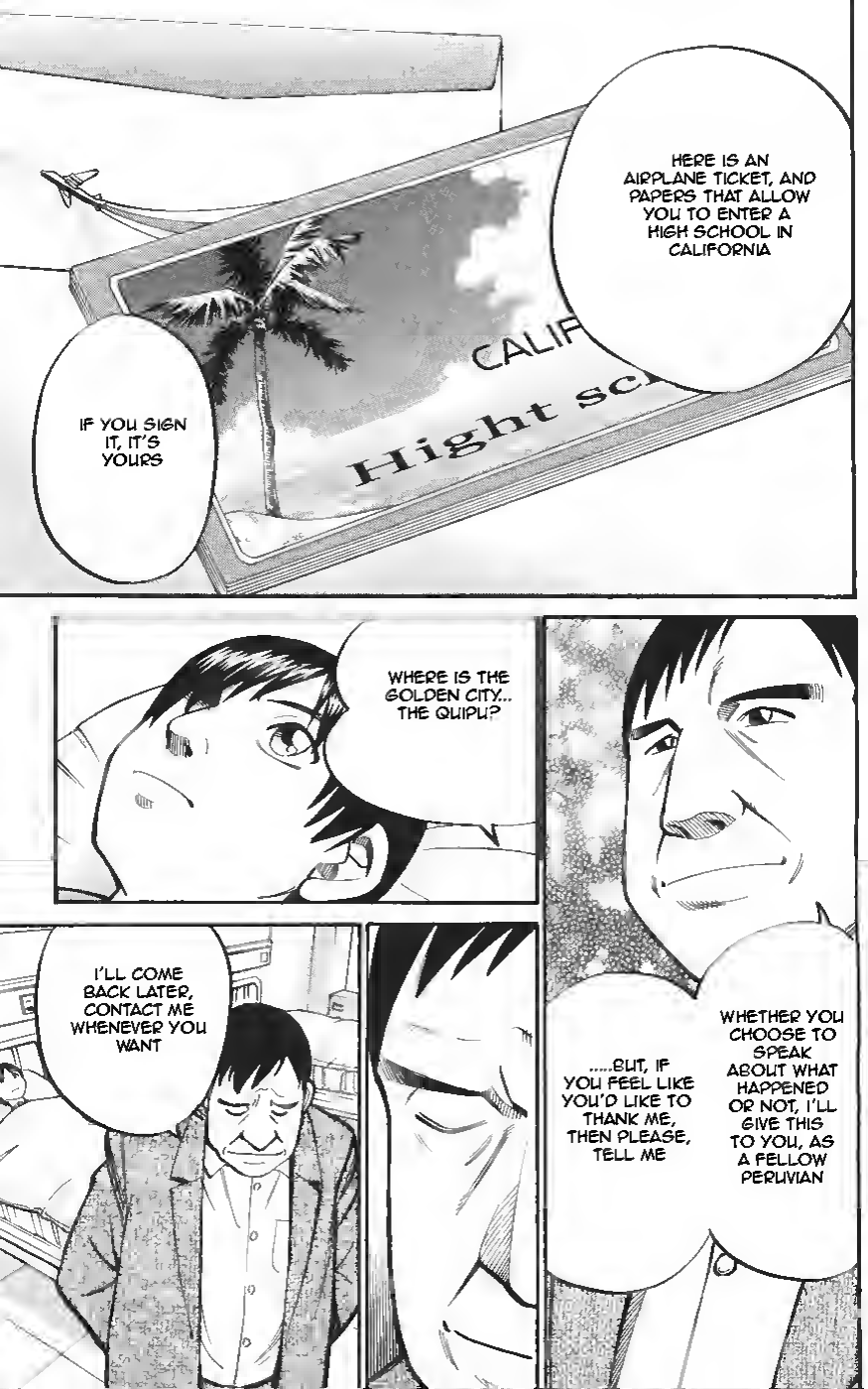
POLAIYU WAS MY FRIEND


YOU CLAMP UP WHEN THE TOPIC OF THE GOLDEN CITY COMES UP


IF THIS WILL HELP YOU...

I HEARD YOU WANT TO ENTER HIGH SCHOOL

I WANT TO HELP HIM, BUT I NEED TO START SOMEWHERE

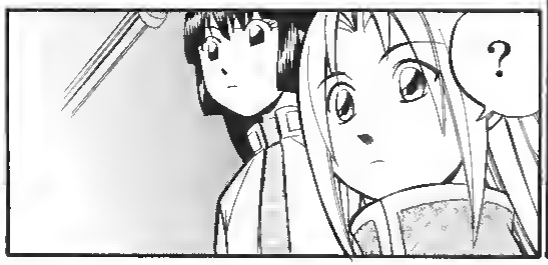

HERE IS AN AIRPLANE TICKET, AND PAPERS THAT ALLOW YOU TO ENTER A HIGH SCHOOL IN CALIFORNIA
IF YOU SIGN IT, IT'S YOURS
WHERE IS THE GOLDEN CITY... THE QUIPU?
WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO SPEAK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED OR NOT, I'LL GIVE THIS TO YOU, AS A FELLOW PERUVIAN
.....BUT, IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'D LIKE TO THANK ME, THEN PLEASE, TELL ME
I'LL COME BACK LATER, CONTACT ME WHENEVER YOU WANT

GLARE
HE SHOT A GLARE AT US....
EXCUSE US
WE GOT PERMISSION TO COME HERE
THAT'S RIGHT! SO HURRY UP AND TELL US, SO THAT WE CAN GO LOOK FOR IT....
ARE YOU ALSO HERE TO SEARCH FOR THE GOLDEN CITY?
IGNORE HER

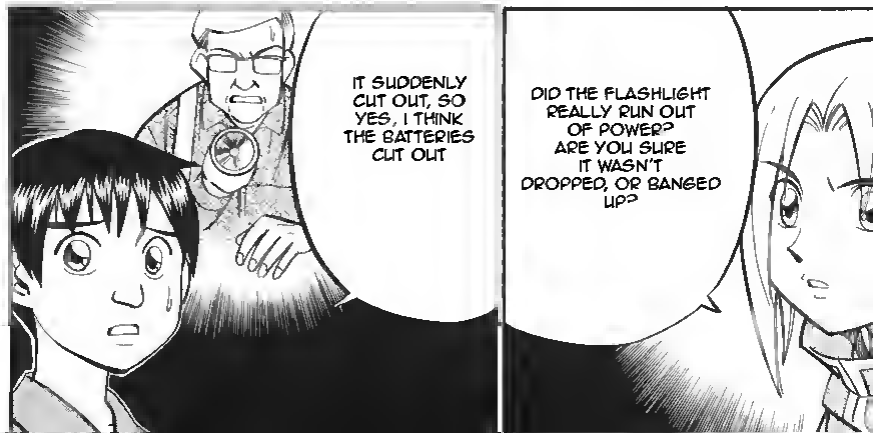
AMAZING!! IT'S REALLY THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE!!
WE HAVE A LETTER OF PROXY FROM THE PRESIDENT
YOU'RE JUST KIDS, I'M SURPRISED YOU GOT IN HERE
YOU'RE AMAZING! YOU ONLY LOOK ABOUT THE SAME AGE AS ME, TOO.... DID YOU COME HERE FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY?
REALLY? SHOW ME, SHOW ME!
IF I CAN, THEN SURE...
THERE ARE SOME THINGS WE WANT YOU TO ANSWER
SO, WHY WERE YOU ABLE TO COME BACK HERE?
IN A PLACE UNDERGROUND, IN A PATH THAT YOU DID NOT RECOGNIZE...
YOUR FLASH-LIGHT CUT OUT AND YOU SEPARATED WITH THE PROFESSOR, IN THE DARKNESS, RIGHT
YEAH

AND ALSO, BECAUSE OF ANOTHER REASON
MY VISION IN THE DARKNESS, IS REALLY GOOD

HUH?
IT WAS DARK, AND LIKE A MAZE, RIGHT, SO HOW DID YOU COME BACK...
WELL, THAT'S CAUSE I'M FREQUENTLY GUIDING PEOPLE THROUGH THE TUNNELS, SO....

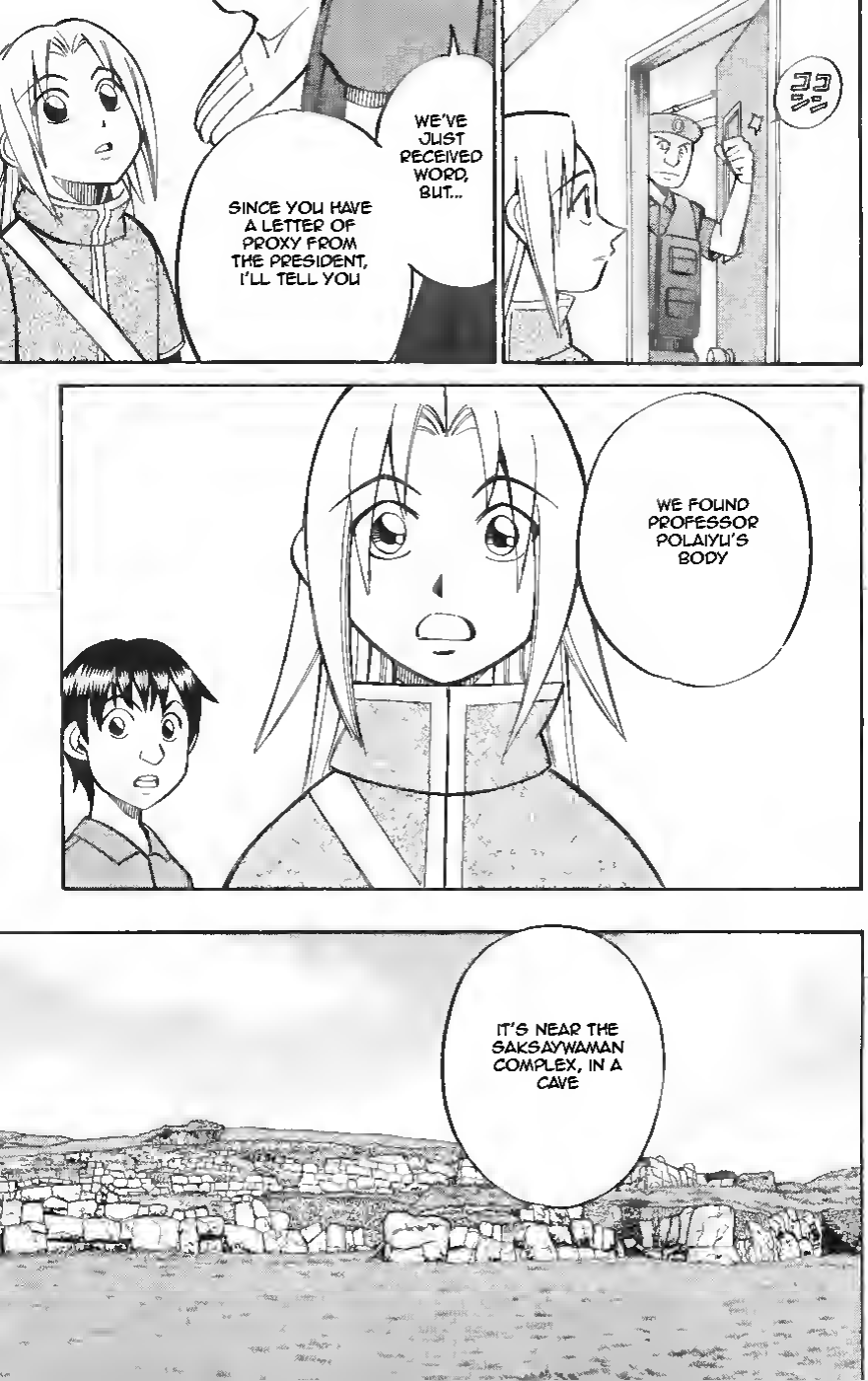

?

BUT IT WAS REALLY LITTER CHANCE THAT I WAS ABLE TO STUMBLE UPON A TUNNEL THAT I RECOGNIZED
IF I WASN'T LUCKY, I WOULD'VE DIED


IT SUDDENLY CUT OUT, SO YES, I THINK THE BATTERIES CUT OUT
DID THE FLASHLIGHT REALLY RUN OUT OF POWER? ARE YOU SURE IT WASN'T DROPPED, OR BANGED UP?

HULIO!! WHERE ARE YOU!? WHICH PATH DO I TAKE!?
AND THEN THE PROFESSOR STARTED PANICKING...
WHAT!
AND STARTED RUNNING
PROF-ESSOR!!
WHAT HAPPENED!?
OKAY, FINAL QUESTION
WHERE DID YOU PICK UP THE GOLD?
HOW WAS THE PROFESSOR READING THE QUIPU AS A MAP?
I DON'T KNOW... ALL I HEARD WAS HIM SAYING "RIGHT 2" "LEFT 3" AND SO FORTH....
AND I LOST SIGHT OF HIM....

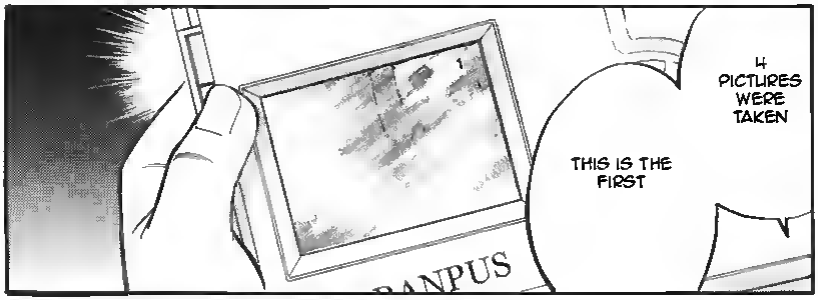
WHAT I LIKE THE MOST ABOUT BEING A GUIDE, IS TALKING TO PEOPLE WHO COME FROM OTHER COUNTRIES
SINCE I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE
I LOVE HEARING ABOUT THE OUTSIDE WORLD
NEXT TIME, WHY DON'T YOU TEACH ME A SONG OF YOUR COUNTRY?
OF THOSE, I LOVE BEING TAUGHT NEW SONGS, THE MOST!
...SURE

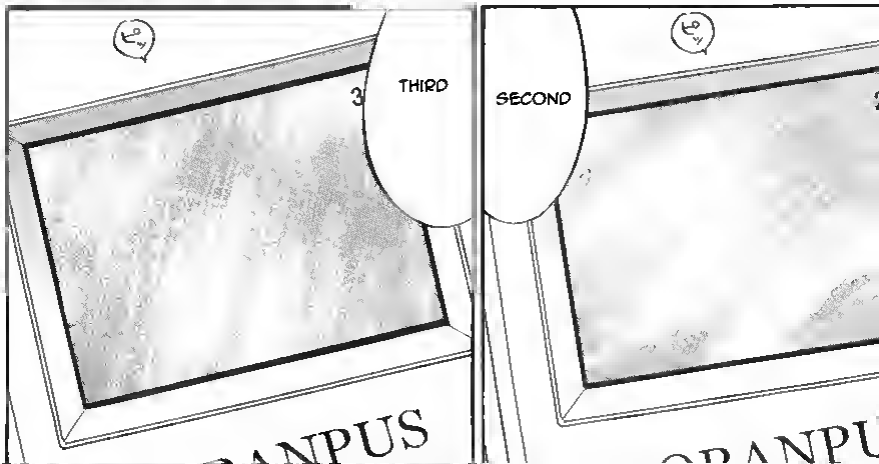

SINCE YOU HAVE A LETTER OF PROXY FROM THE PRESIDENT, I'LL TELL YOU
WE'VE JUST RECEIVED WORD, BUT...
コンコン
WE FOUND PROFESSOR POLAIYU'S BODY
IT'S NEAR THE SAKSAYWAMAN COMPLEX, IN A CAVE

POLICIA
A TOURIST WHO SEPARATED FROM THE GROUP, FOUND IT, BUT...
APPARENTLY HE WAS ONLY 50 METERS FROM THE EXIT
POLICIA

THE QUIPU! WHERE IS THE QUIPU!?
THIS WAY, PROFESSOR JORGE
IT'S THE ONLY LEAD TO THE GOLDEN CITY!! FIND IT!!
I'M SORRY
DO WHAT EVER YOU NEED TO DO TO FIND IT!!
BECAUSE I FAILED TO GUIDE YOU PROPERLY...
THAT'S RIGHT! WE HAVE TO FIND IT
YOU SHOULD LEAVE THE CONFESSION OF YOUR SINS ON YOUR OWN DEATHBED!

IT'S HERE! IT'S IN HIS PACK
LET ME SEE IT!
AND ALSO, A DIGITAL CAMERA...


4 PICTURES WERE TAKEN
THIS IS THE FIRST

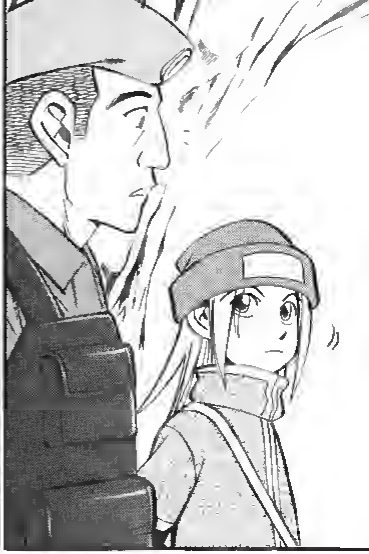

THIRD
SECOND

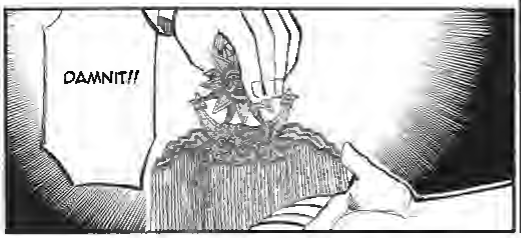
4
THEY'RE ALL BLURY
WELL, THIS OFFERS NO HINTS...
WHAT ABOUT THE FLASH-LIGHT!?
AS LONG AS WE HAVE THAT, WE CAN DETERMINE IF THIS POVERTY STRICKEN KID IS THE CULPRIT!
WHERE IS IT!?
THIS GUY....
I WILL INVESTIGATE IT!
PASS IT HERE!!
NEXT TO THE BODY

SOMEONE PASS ME SOME AAA BATTERIES
IT DOESN'T TURN ON
hl4
AND NOW....
IT WORKS!
IT WAS JUST AS HULIO, SAID
SO NOW WE'VE DETERMINED THAT IT WASN'T BROKEN, THAT IT WAS JUST OUT OF BATTERIES
THANK GOD

PROFESSOR JORGE
BUT SHE SAID SHE PUT IN NEW BATTERIES....
PLEASE GIVE THE QUIPU TO ME
I SHALL HOLD ON TO IT, SINCE I HAVE THE LETTER OF PROXY FROM THE PRESIDENT
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!! ON WHO'S AUTHORITY....

PLEASE GIVE IT TO HIM, OR I WILL HAVE TO ARREST YOU




DAMNIT!!

THE TREASURE OF INCA BELONGS TO THE PERUVIANS! REMEMBER THAT!!

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK? SHINRA

IN THE DEPTHS OF DARKNESS!?
WHAT HAPPENED...
SORRY, I CAN'T REALLY GIVE YOU ANYTHING IN RETURN FOR TEACHING ME YOUR SONG
SO THIS IS YOUR HOME, HULIO
MALI, YOU'RE QUITE THE SINGER!!

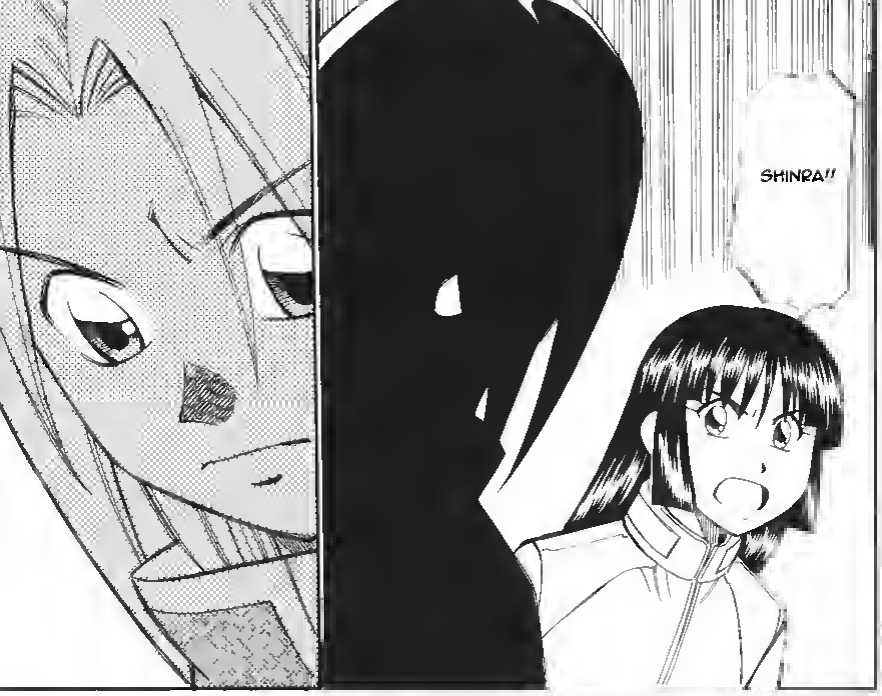
ARE YOU CONSERVING OR IS THERE AN OUTAGE?
I DON'T HAVE ANY LIGHTS, EITHER....
THIS TASTES GOOD
AH, THE STARS ARE BEAUTIFUL HERE!
YOU SHOULD HAVE REALIZED THAT WITH THE CANDLES!
ELECTRI-CITY DOESN'T REACH THIS FAR OUT OF TOWN
RUS-TLE
I CAN SEE WELL IN DARKNESS
IT'S PROBABLY JUST A STRAY DOG
AH, I SEE!

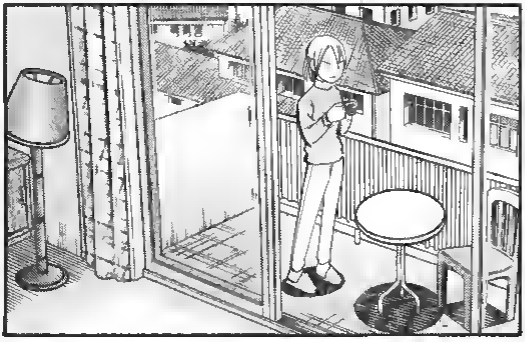
THE QUIETNESS IS INCOMPARABLE TO TOKYO
ONLY THE SOUND OF THE WIND, CAN BE HEARD
SONGS HELP DISPERSE THE SILENCE
I ALSO SING A LOT IN THE TUNNELS
THAT'S WHY I LIKE TO SING
SINCE THE LIGHT FROM THE CITY REACHES OUT HERE...
IT'S BRIGHTER OUTSIDE MY HOUSE
I'VE NEVER CONSIDERED IT HARD, NOT TO HAVE LIGHTS INSIDE MY HOME...

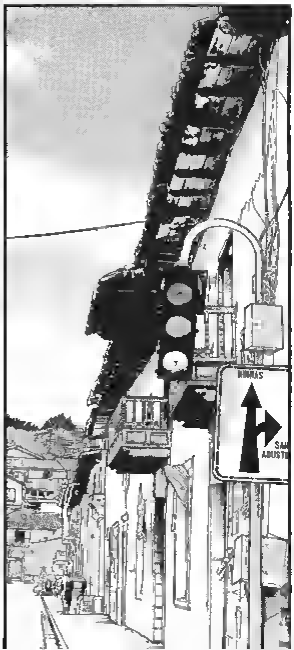
BUT, HAVING TO SEE
THE LIGHTS THAT
I DON'T HAVE MYSELF
IN THE CITY EVERY DAY....

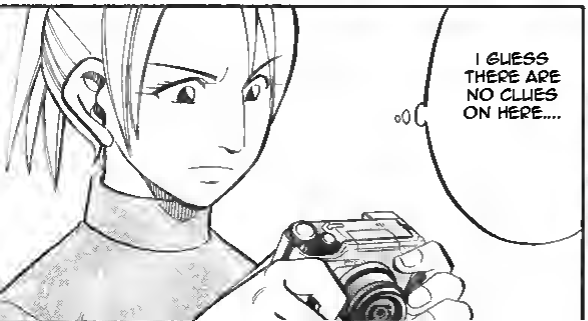
...DOES TAKE
IT'S TOLL ON ME

WHEN SHINRA FINISHES DECODING THE QUIPU...
THEN, YOU SHOULD FIND THE CITY OF GOLD, AND BECOME RICH YOURSELF!
!!
THE QUIPU IS MISSING!!
WHO CAME IN HERE!?
MY BAG HAS BEEN OPENED!!
I, I DIDN'T EXPECT THERE TO BE THIEVES COMING INTO MY HOUSE....
IT'S YOUR HOUSE!!


SHINRA!!




SHINRA'S


I GUESS THERE ARE NO CLUES ON HERE....

WHAT WAS HE DOING...
ALL THE PICTURES THAT THE PROFESSOR TOOK, ARE ALL BLURY AS HELL.....
FOR IT TO CUT OUT LIKE THAT, SOMEONE MUST HAVE TAMPERED WITH IT, OR CHANGED THE BATTERIES....
BESIDES, I AM CERTAIN I PUT NEW BATTERIES INSIDE THE FLASHLIGHT
WAIT, WHAT!?
IF SO, THEN THE CULPRIT IS.....
I SEE, SO THE PROFESSOR WAS KILLED!!

ガス
W... WHO ARE YOU!?

—Op.19:太陽(たいよう)とフォークロア<前編(ぜんへん)>

The Sun and a Folklore

完(かん)—

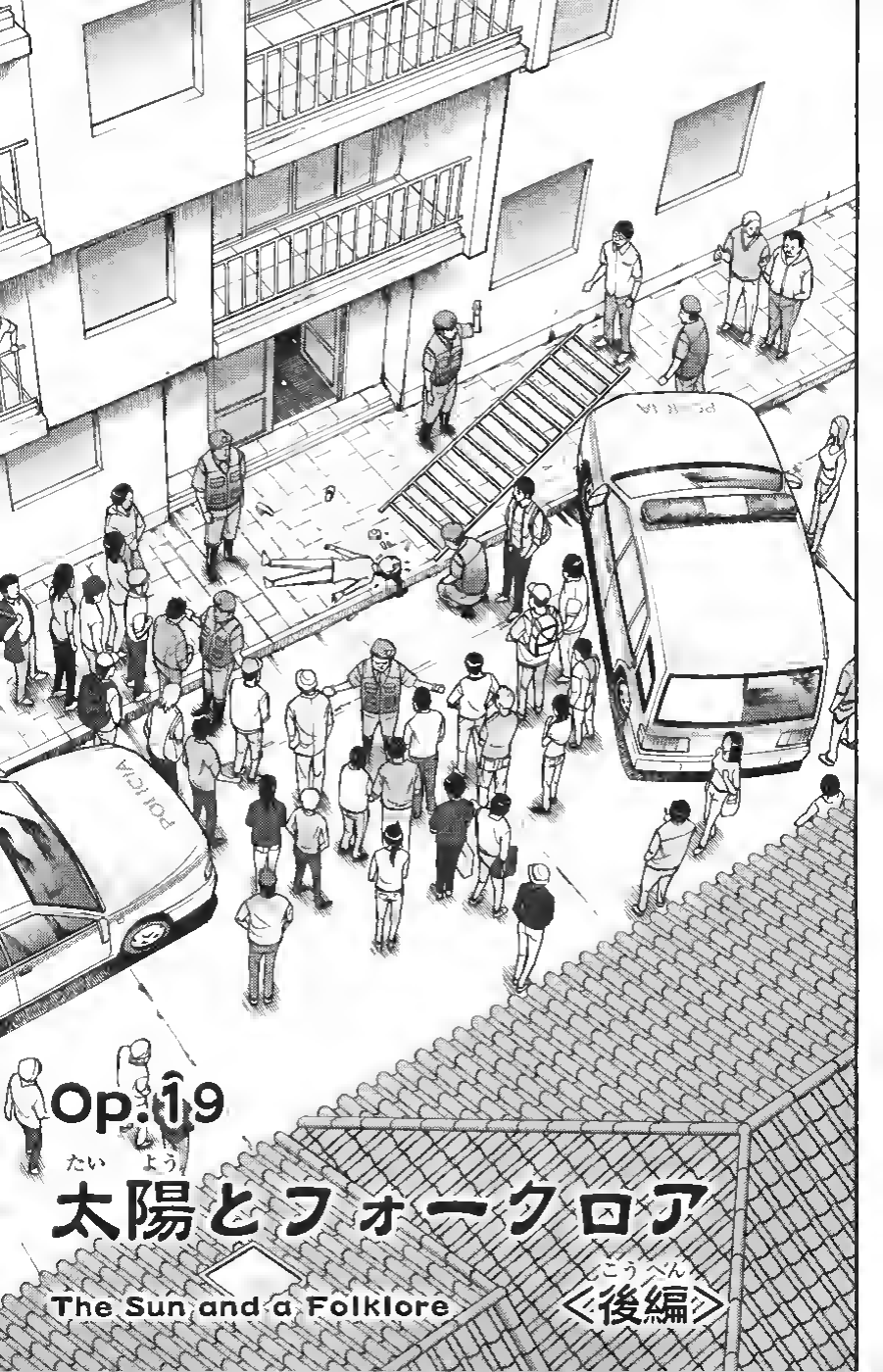
end

OI, AIZEN HERE

IT'S A CLIFFHANGER!

ENJOY :P

C.M.B. KATOU MOTOHIRO



Op.19
太陽とフォークロア
The Sun and a Folklore
〈後編〉

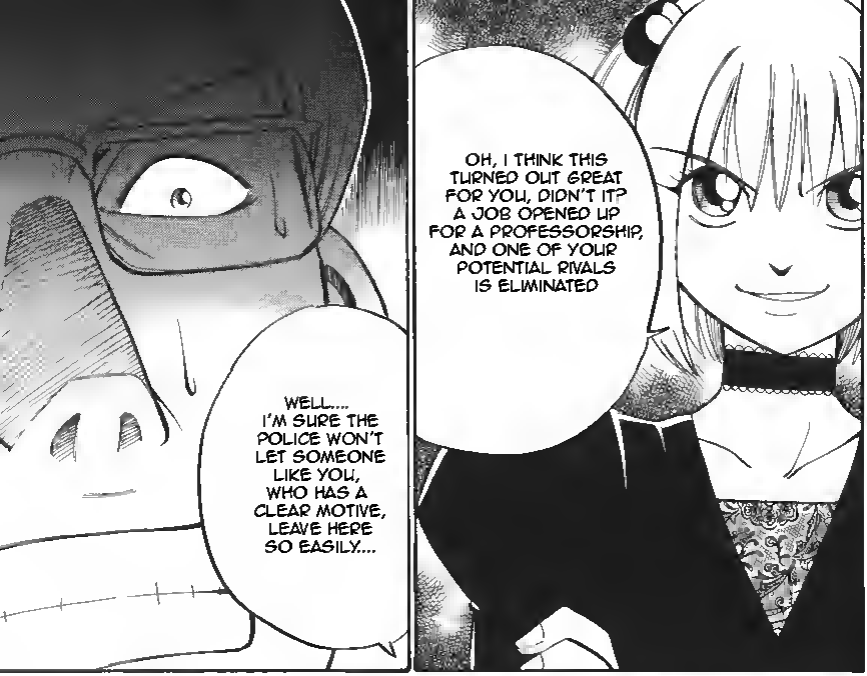
A CALICASIAN WOMAN FELL FROM THE 4TH STORY FLOOR?
IS IT A SUICIDE?
LET ME THROUGH!!
MAISE-SAN!!

HOTEL
PROBABLY AN ACCIDENT
THE GUARD RAILS FOR THE VERANDA, BROKE OFF
WHAT HAPPENED!?
ALTHOUGH THERE ARE REPORTS OF PEOPLE WHO SAW A MASKED FIGURE AROUND HERE....
THE DIGITAL CAMERA THAT THE DECEASED PROFESSOR HAD WITH HIM!!
BRING THAT DIGITAL CAMERA TO ME
I'VE BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE PRESIDENT TO OVERSEE THIS INCIDENT!

SHE WAS LOOKING AT THIS, THE MOMENT BEFORE SHE DIED
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH THAT? IT ONLY HAS SOME BLURRED PICTURES, RIGHT
IT MIGHT HOLD A CLUE AS TO WHO THE CULPRIT IS....
あぁ?
HOW IS FINDING THE CULPRIT, GONNA MAKE ANY MONEY FOR ME?
OKAY, STOP!
IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE YOUR SEARCH FOR JUSTICE, DO IT WHEN YOU GET BACK HOME!

RIGHT NOW, YOU SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON GETTING BACK THE QUIPU, THAT WAS STOLEN FROM YOU!
DID YOU FORGET THAT YOU OWE ME ONE?
I TOLD YOU TO GO SEARCH FOR THE GOLDEN CITY!
)))))
OK, FINE!
FINE, I'LL GET IT BACK FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY!
"IF I AM NOT ALLOWED TO KEEP MY INVESTIGATION GOING, I WILL HAVE TO BLOW UP THE TUNNELS TO SEAL THEM, FOR SAFETY PURPOSES"
MAU, TELL THE ASSISTANT, MARKA
AND MISS NANASE, TELL PROFESSOR GORJE, THE FOLLOWING

HOTI
NO WAY!!
...
EVEN IF HE'S THE HOLDER OF THE CMB RINGS, HE CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO BLOW UP THE CAVERNS....
SHINRA HAS THE AUTHORITY
AND BESIDES, THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS WERE ORIGINALLY CLOSED WITH EXPLOSIVES, BUT LATER, IN 1972, AN EARTHQUAKE OPENED THE TUNNELS UP AGAIN, SO IT'S NOT LIKE THERE ISN'T PRECEDENCE
DAMNIT!! PROFESSOR POLAIYU AND MAISE, DIED.... AND NOW YOU WANT TO CLOSE DOWN THE TUNNEL BEFORE WE ARE ALLOWED TO RESEARCH IT!?
WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO TELL THE UNIVERSITY...


OH, I THINK THIS TURNED OUT GREAT FOR YOU, DIDN'T IT? A JOB OPENED UP FOR A PROFESSORSHIP, AND ONE OF YOUR POTENTIAL RIVALS IS ELIMINATED
WELL.... I'M SURE THE POLICE WON'T LET SOMEONE LIKE YOU, WHO HAS A CLEAR MOTIVE, LEAVE HERE SO EASILY....

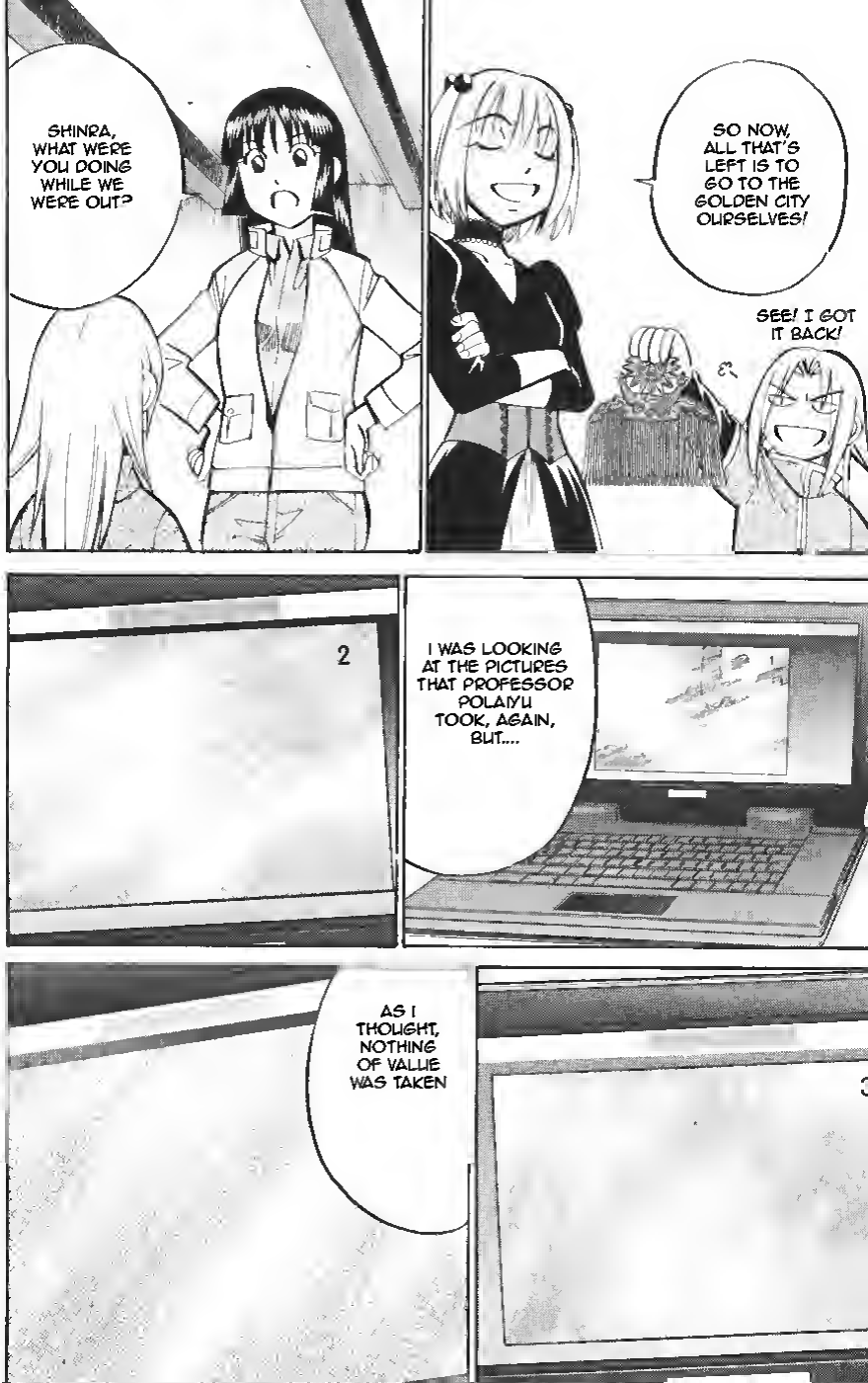
I WILL NOT LET THIS OCCUR!!
THE TUNNELS WILL NOT BE

I HAVE FRIENDS IN THE GOVERNMENT! DON'T THINK I CAN'T STOP YOU!!
I WONDER WHICH SIDE THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE, IF YOU CONSIDER THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO THE TOURISM INDUSTRY THAT THIS WOULD CAUSE?
BUT THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN 2 DEATHS, THANKS TO THESE TUNNELS
WE BOTH MADE OUR WAY BY PAINSTAKINGLY WORKING TO GET WHAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE TODAY....
POLAIYU WAS A FRIEND OF MINE, WHO, LIKE ME, WAS MESMERIZED WITH THE ANDES CIVILIZATION
POLAIYU WAS AN OUTSIDER, BUT I AM A PERUVIAN
HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE VERY IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US

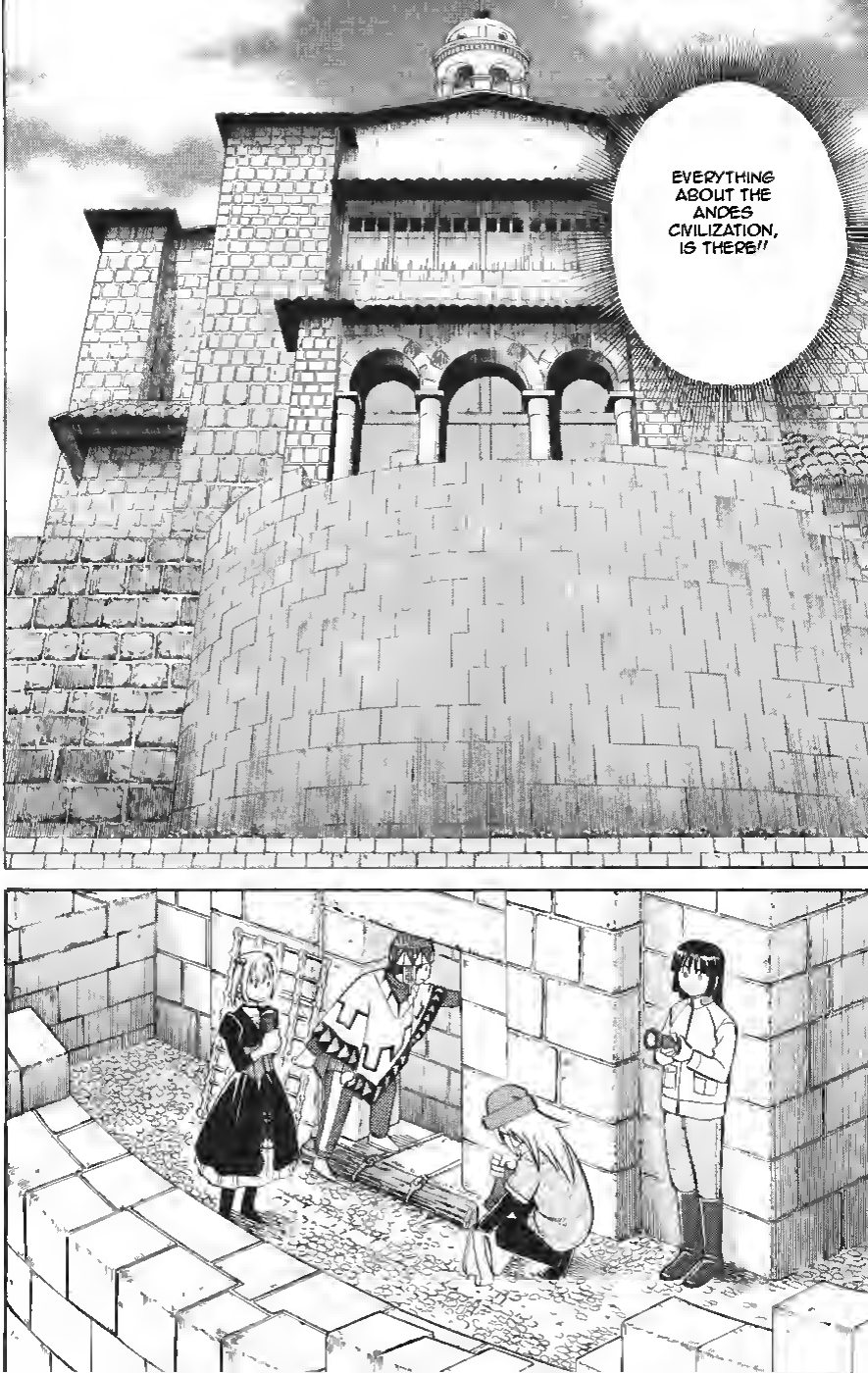
OH... SO IF OUTSIDERS CAME AROUND JAPAN, AND BEGAN DIGGING AND UNCOVERING JAPANESE ARTIFACTS
YOU WOULD BE FINE WITH THAT?
WHY DO YOU CONTINUE TO DO WHAT THE SPANISH DID TO US A LONG TIME AGO?
WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING OF THE SORT... BESIDES, DON'T YOU NEED INTERNATIONAL HELP, IN RESEARCHING AND FINDING THESE ARTIFACTS?
IF IT WERE ME, I'D FEEL A MURDEROUS INTENT AGAINST THOSE OUTSIDERS

THIS IS THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS OF THE INCA
ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THESE TUNNELS GO ON AS FAR AS EQUADOR AND BOLIVIA
THIS TUNNEL IS FOR TOURISM PURPOSES, BUT PLEASE DO NOT ENTER ANY OF THE TUNNELS ON THE SIDES, IF YOU GET LOST, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET OUT
DIDN'T YOU HEAR? THEY'RE CLOSING THIS PLACE DOWN, DUE TO SAFETY REASONS
BUT.... THEY'RE GONNA BLOW THIS PLACE UP, RIGHT?
I WON'T BE ABLE TO WORK ANYMORE...
CLOSING THIS PLACE DOWN....
PLEASE COME AGAIN!
!

YOU FOUND THE QUIPU?
IT WAS INSIDE MY BAG

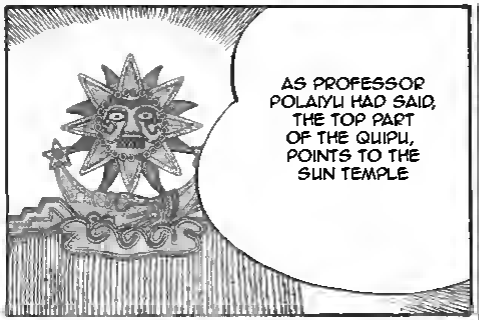

SHINRA, WHAT WERE YOU DOING WHILE WE WERE OUT?
SO NOW, ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO GO TO THE GOLDEN CITY OURSELVES!
SEE! I GOT IT BACK!
2
I WAS LOOKING AT THE PICTURES THAT PROFESSOR POLAIYU TOOK, AGAIN, BUT....
AS I THOUGHT, NOTHING OF VALUE WAS TAKEN

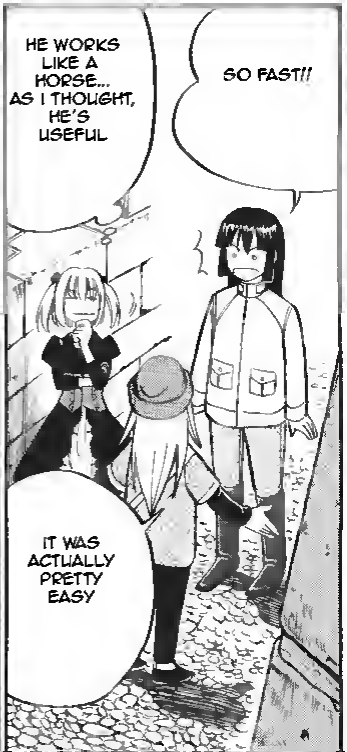
I'M COMING TOO!
I GUESS WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO INTO THE TUNNELS OURSELVES
THIS TIME, I WIILL PROPERLY GUIDE YOU THROUGH
I WANT TO FINISH THE JOB I STARTED
SOMETHING MUCH MORE AMAZING THAN THE GOLDEN CITY
I'M FINE NOW, AND BESIDES, WHAT I SAW INSIDE THE TUNNELS, WAS...
HULIO, YOU SHOULDN'T PUSH YOURSELF, YOU'RE STILL RECOVERING, RIGHT?

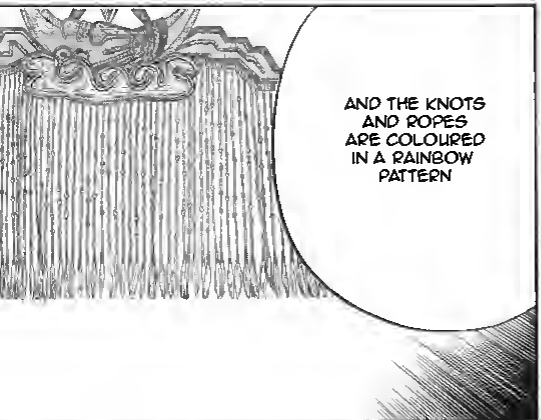

EVERYTHING ABOUT THE ANDES CIVILIZATION, IS THERE!!

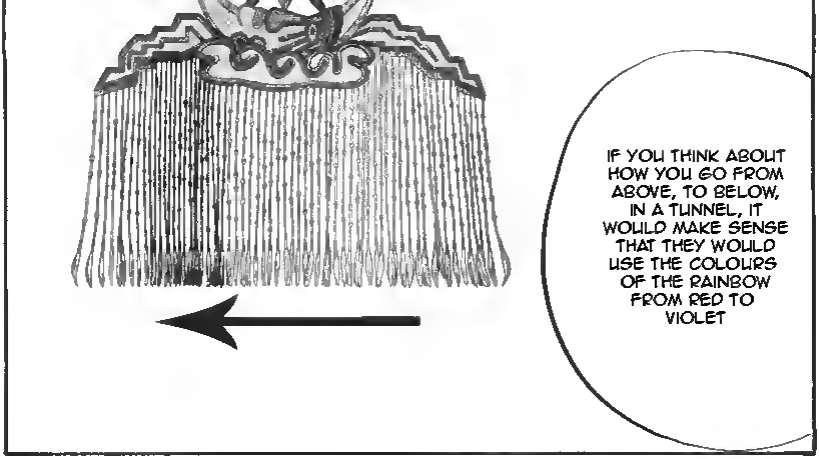
ARE YOU READY?
I'LL MAKE SURE TO BRING A LOT OF EXTRA BATTERIES

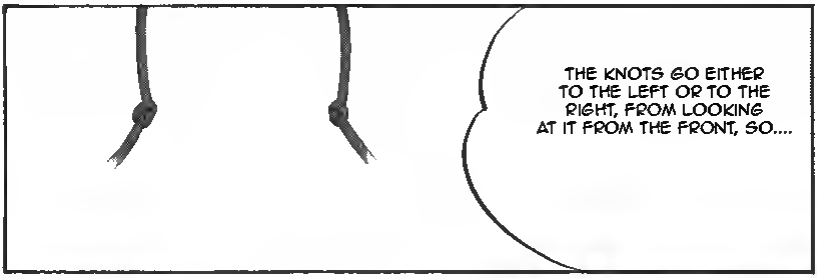
OH, RIGHT, SHINRA, DID YOU DECIPHER THE QUIPU?
YUP

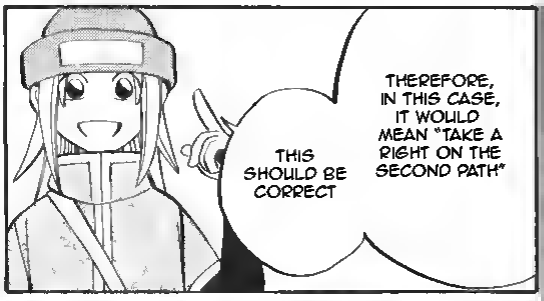

AS PROFESSOR POLAIYU HAD SAID, THE TOP PART OF THE QUIPU, POINTS TO THE SUN TEMPLE


SO FAST!!
HE WORKS LIKE A HORSE... AS I THOUGHT, HE'S USEFUL
IT WAS ACTUALLY PRETTY EASY


AND THE KNOTS AND ROPES ARE COLOURED IN A RAINBOW PATTERN


IF YOU THINK ABOUT HOW YOU GO FROM ABOVE, TO BELOW, IN A TUNNEL, IT WOULD MAKE SENSE THAT THEY WOULD USE THE COLOURS OF THE RAINBOW FROM RED TO VIOLET


THE KNOTS GO EITHER TO THE LEFT OR TO THE RIGHT, FROM LOOKING AT IT FROM THE FRONT, SO....


THIS SHOULD BE CORRECT
THEREFORE, IN THIS CASE, IT WOULD MEAN "TAKE A RIGHT ON THE SECOND PATH"

FOR EXAMPLE, IF THERE ARE 5 KNOTS GOING RIGHT, AND 3 KNOTS GOING LEFT, THERE ARE 2 KNOTS EXTRA, THAT GO RIGHT

WE'LL HAVE TO TEST IT OUT, THOUGH

IF YOU'RE WRONG, WE'LL DIE, THOUGH.... I'M TAKING BACK WHAT I JUST SAID!
FIRST, TAKE A RIGHT AT THE THIRD PATH...
THERE'S A TUNNEL ON THE LEFT!
NEXT, THE SECOND PATH, LEFT...
AH!
IT'S TRUE, THERE'S A TUNNEL AT THE RIGHT SIDE ON THE 3RD PATH...
SO IT LOOKS LIKE THE METHOD OF READING IT, IS CORRECT
THANK GOD....

I'LL BE THE ONE TO GUIDE YOU
CAN YOU LET ME DO THAT?
WHY DIDN'T THE INCAN PEOPLE, DEVELOP A WRITTEN ALPHABET, TO BEGIN WITH?
TAKE THE FOURTH PATH TO THE RIGHT...
BUT STILL, THIS IS SUCH A STUPID WAY OF KEEPING TRACK OF THE PATHS

SO WHY DIDN'T THEY PRODUCE LETTERS FROM THOSE PICTURES?

WE KNOW THEY DREW PICTURES LIKE THE NAZCA LINES AND ON THE POTS AND JARS....

KINDA LIKE THIS

PICTURE OF A MONKEY FROM THE NAZCA LINES

THE WORD "MONKEY" DEPICTED BY LETTERS

AND ALSO, THAT THE INCAN PEOPLE, DIDN'T HAVE A REASON TO LEAVE BEHIND AN ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF HISTORY

FOR EXAMPLE, ONE THEORY WAS THAT ONLY THE HIGHER UPS OF THE CIVILIZATION COULD READ THE QUIPUS, AND THEY WANTED TO PREVENT THE COMMONERS FROM LEARNING, AND THEREFORE THE WRITTEN ALPHABET NEVER EVOLVED....

THERE ARE SEVERAL THEORIES, BUT....

THEIR KING'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS WERE RECORDED AS SONGS AND STITCHWORK....
AND BY TEACHING THOSE SONGS FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION, THEY PASSED ON THEIR HISTORY
HE BOUGHT US ICECREAM
THE LAST KING WAS A GOOD KING
AND WHEN THAT NEW KING HEARD THE SONG OF THE LAST KING....
THERE ARE OTHER INTERESTING THEORIES,
FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN A NEW KING ASCENDED TO THE THRONE...
WHAT!?
I DON'T LIKE THAT SONG, IF I HEAR ANYONE SINGING IT, YOU GET THE DEATH PENALTY

HE BOUGHT US ICE CREAM
HE BOUGHT US ICE CREAM
AND SO, THE PEOPLE WHO WANTED TO PRESERVE THEIR HISTORY, SANG THOSE SONGS AND PASSED THEM ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION, IN SECRET.....
THANKS TO THEIR LACK OF A WRITTEN ALPHABET, THERE IS MUCH THAT WE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT THEM
BUT THAT STORY IS STILL, JUST A HYPOTHESIS, AND THE TRUE REASON, IS A MYSTERY
STILL GIVES US MANY MYSTERIES TO SOLVE
THE ANDES CIVILIZATION, EVEN IN THE 21ST CENTURY,

IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE COME PRETTY FAR INTO THE TUNNELS

I CAN NO LONGER GUIDE US BACK TO THE SURFACE
FROM HERE ON OUT, WE MUST RELY ON THE QUIPU TO RETURN
3 MORE TURNS AND WE'LL BE IN THE GOLDEN CITY....
3 MORE
HOW MANY STRINGS ARE LEFT?
ONE
TWO
THREE!

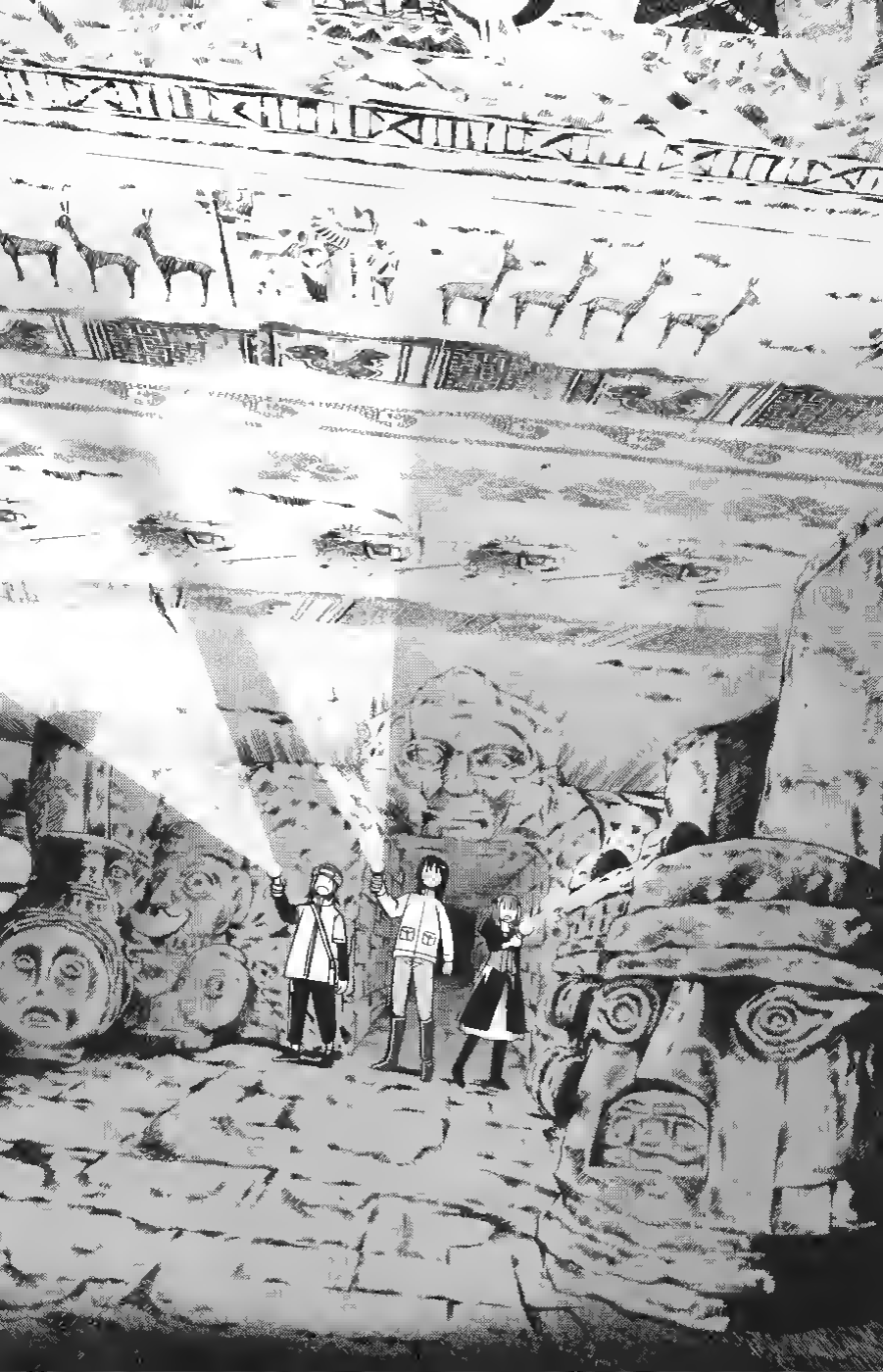
MAU, WAIT! THIS IS....
WHAT PART OF THIS IS EVEN MORE AMAZING THAN THE GOLDEN CITY!!

THE HELL..... IS THIS THE GOLDEN CITY!?

IT'S A SANCTUARY
ROOMS WHERE THE WALLS WERE BENT, ARE USED TO DETERMINE THE POSITION OF THE SUN
THE SAME THING WAS AT MACHU PICCHU AND THE SUN TEMPLE
A SANCTU-ARY?
LIKE THIS
DURING A SPECIFIC DAY ON SPRING AND AUTUMN, THE SUNLIGHT COMES DOWN AS A SPECIFIC BEAM OF LIGHT

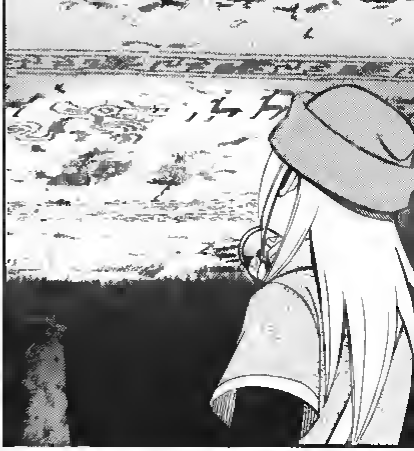
SAY THAT SOONER!!
PROFESSOR POLAIYU SAID THE SAME THING
WE TAKE A RIGHT, NOW
SOMEONE BUILT THIS TUNNEL!

YEAH
IS IT THROUGH HERE?
WHAT...!!
WE'RE COMING TO THE EXIT

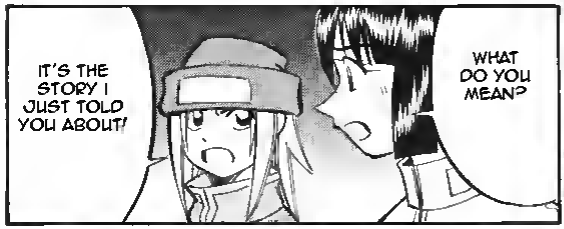


A MURAL!?

A PICTURE OF THE FIRST EMPEROR, LEAVING TITIKAKA LAKE....



A WAR...
THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE....
A SCENE DEPICTING THEM PUTTING UP A STICK ON THE GROUND, DETERMINING THE POSITION OF CUSCO


IT'S THE STORY I JUST TOLD YOU ABOUT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

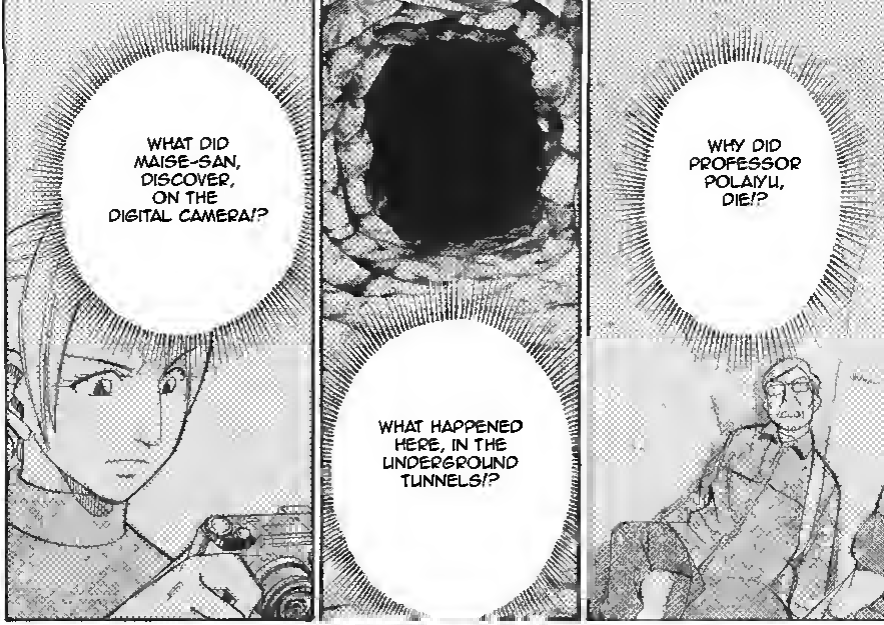
IT'S THE HISTORY OF THE INCA!!

HE BOUGHT US ICE CREAM
HE BOUGHT US ICE CREAM
I TOLD YOU THAT THE PRESERVERS OF HISTORY, KEPT PASSING DOWN THE SONGS OF THEIR PAST KING'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN SECRET, RIGHT

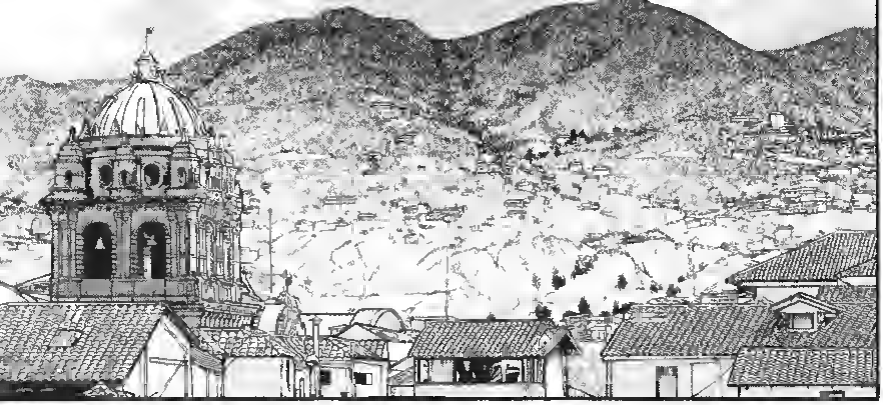
THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE THE PEOPLE WHO PASSED DOWN THEIR SONGS, PRESERVED THEIR HISTORY IN THE FORM OF ARTWORK!!
A PLACE, THAT IS KEPT IN SECRET...
THIS IS A PLACE THAT NOT EVEN THE KING, MUST KNOW ABOUT
IT'S A HISTORICAL RECORD OF THE INCAN PEOPLE, WHO DIDN'T HAVE A WRITTEN ALPHABET....
IT'S AN AMAZING DISCOVERY!!

LOOK, SHINRA, IT'S A MINIATURE GOLDEN CITY!
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING EVEN MORE AMAZING THAN GOLD, RIGHT INFRONT OF US....
HULIO MUST HAVE TAKEN ONE OF THESE, BACK WITH HIM
AH! THAT KID HAD THE QUIPU WITH HIM
HUH? WHERE'S HULIO?
DID HE GO HOME?
DAMNIT!! WHAT THE... HELL IS THAT KID THINKING!?
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BACK, WITHOUT HIM!!

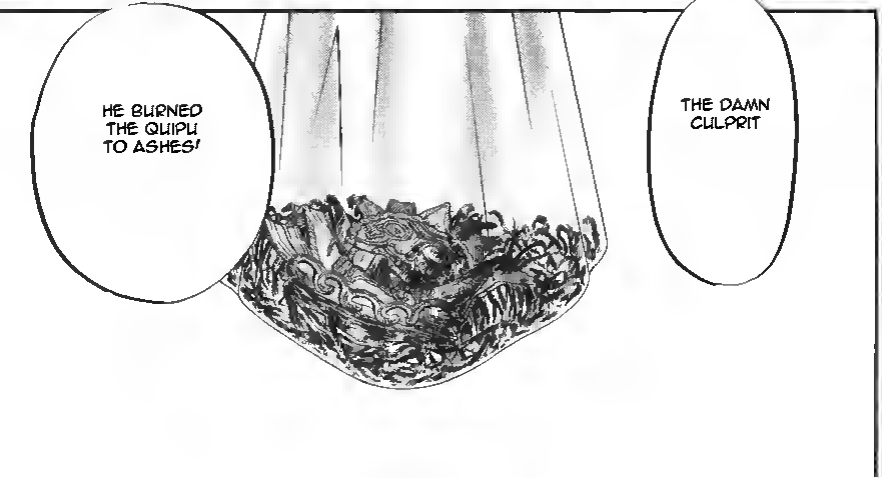
IF YOU KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, ABOUT THIS MURAL, MAU
I'LL SAVE US
WE NEED TO GO AFTER HIM!!
IF WE MOVE NOW, WE'LL JUST GET LOST
THEN WHAT THE HELL ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO!
YOU DO THE SAME TO ME, ALL THE TIME!
I HATE IT WHEN YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ME WHEN I'M DOWN!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!!
IF WE MAKE THIS INTO A TOURISM SPOT, WE'LL MAKE TONS OF MONEY...
GREAT, SO THAT MONEY CAN GO TO YOUR FUNERAL COSTS

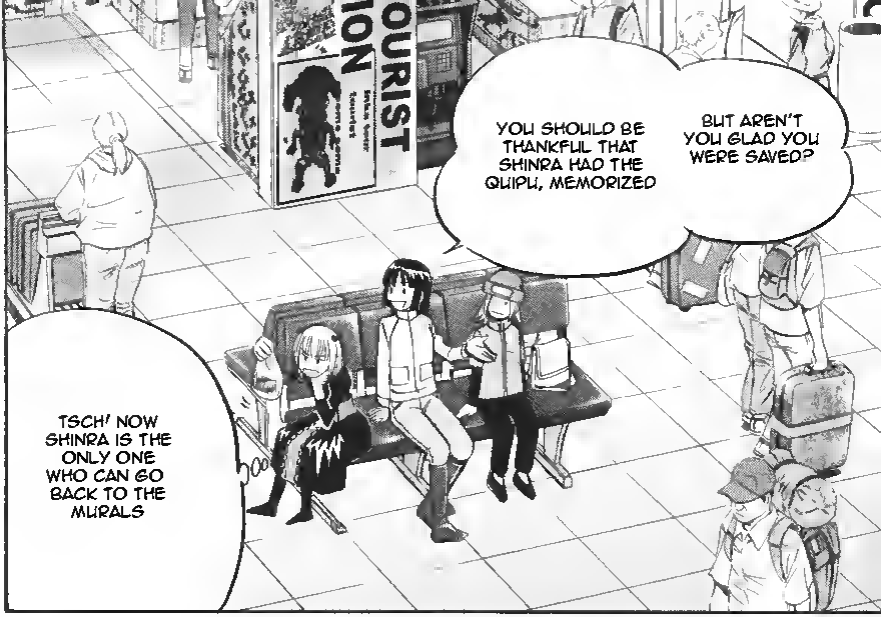

WHAT DID MAISE-SAN, DISCOVER, ON THE DIGITAL CAMERA!?
WHAT HAPPENED HERE, IN THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS!?
WHY DID PROFESSOR POLAIYU, DIE!?

WELL THEN.... I SHALL ESCORT YOU TO THE "WUNDER KAMMER"

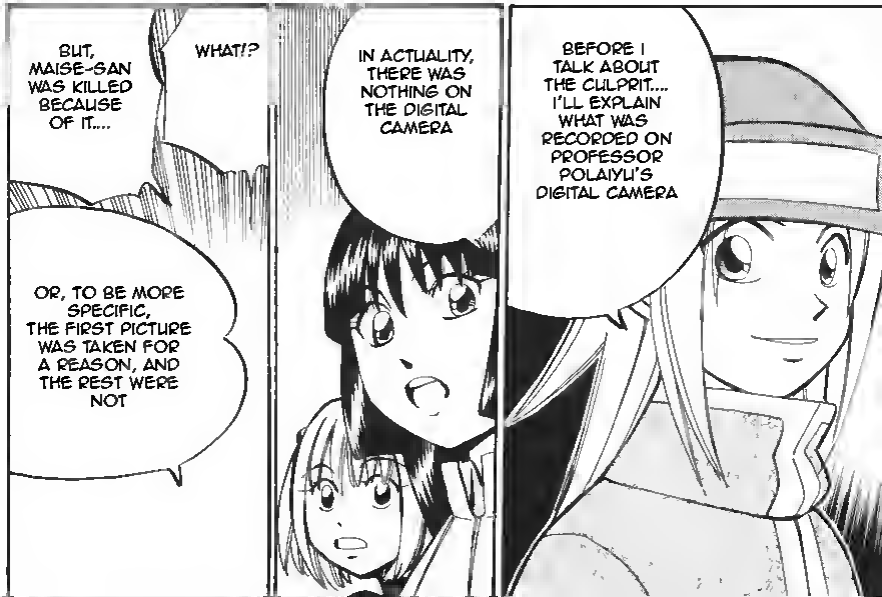


AEROPUERTO
LIMA INTER-NATIONAL AIRPORT

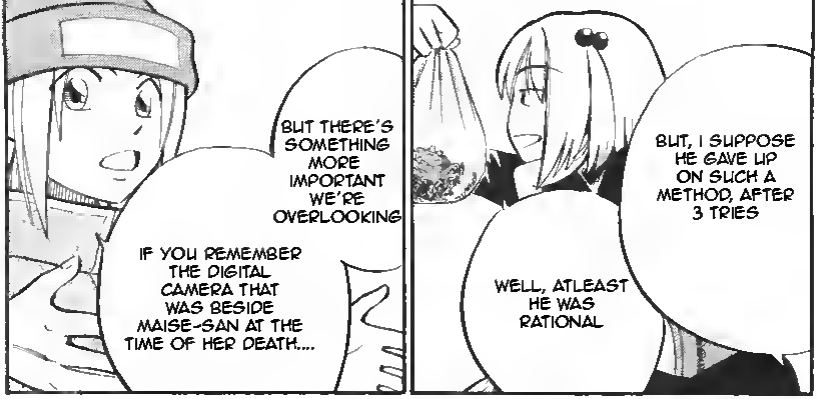

HE BURNED THE QUIPU TO ASHES!
THE DAMN CULPRIT

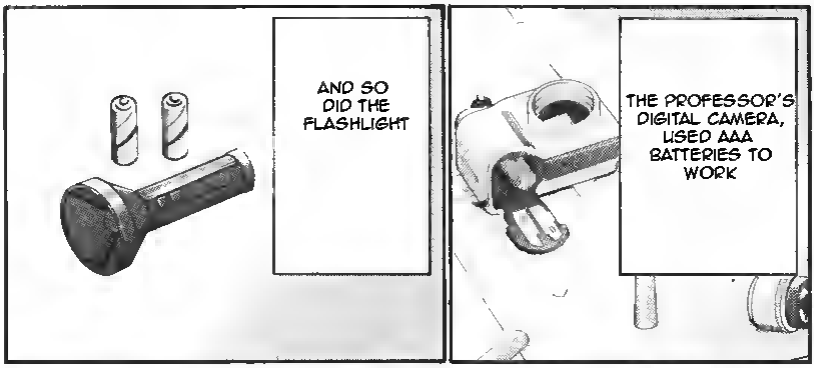

OURIST
ION
YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT SHINRA HAD THE QUIPU, MEMORIZED
BUT AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU WERE SAVED?
TSCH! NOW SHINRA IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GO BACK TO THE MURALS

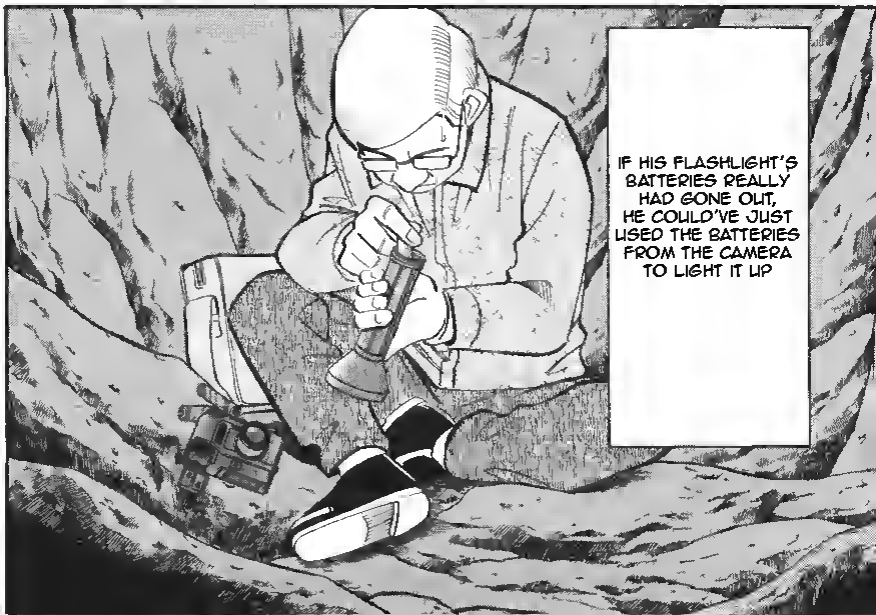
WHO IS THE CULPRIT....
BECAUSE THE CULPRIT WILL ARRIVE HERE
BUT WHY ARE WE AT THE AIRPORT?


BUT, MAISE-SAN WAS KILLED BECAUSE OF IT....
WHAT!?
IN ACTUALITY, THERE WAS NOTHING ON THE DIGITAL CAMERA
BEFORE I TALK ABOUT THE CULPRIT.... I'LL EXPLAIN WHAT WAS RECORDED ON PROFESSOR POLAIYU'S DIGITAL CAMERA
OR, TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, THE FIRST PICTURE WAS TAKEN FOR A REASON, AND THE REST WERE NOT

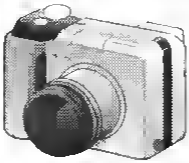
BUT, THANKS TO HIS UNSTEADY HANDS, IT DIDN'T SHOW UP WELL
I BELIEVE HE WAS TAKING A PICTURE OF THE MURAL
THE OTHER 3 PICTURES
WERE ALL BLURRED, AND WE COULDN'T IDENTIFY WHAT PICTURE HE WANTED TO TAKE
BUT IN REALITY, THOSE WERE...
JUST TAKEN WHEN HE TRIED TO USE THE FLASH FROM THE CAMERA, AS A SOURCE OF LIGHT
HE TRIED USING THE FLASHES, TO FIND HIS WAY OUT....
AND THAT'S WHY THOSE PICTURES WERE TAKEN


IF YOU REMEMBER THE DIGITAL CAMERA THAT WAS BESIDE MAISE-SAN AT THE TIME OF HER DEATH....
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT WE'RE OVERLOOKING
WELL, ATLEAST HE WAS RATIONAL
BUT, I SUPPOSE HE GAVE UP ON SUCH A METHOD, AFTER 3 TRIES


AND SO DID THE FLASHLIGHT
THE PROFESSOR'S DIGITAL CAMERA, USED AAA BATTERIES TO WORK


IF HIS FLASHLIGHT'S BATTERIES REALLY HAD GONE OUT, HE COULD'VE JUST USED THE BATTERIES FROM THE CAMERA TO LIGHT IT UP

AH, RIGHT!!
....SO, THIS IS WHAT REALLY HAPPENED
THE PROFESSOR DIDN'T GET LOST IN THE DARKNESS,
BECAUSE HIS FLASHLIGHT'S BATTERIES WERE OUT
HE NEVER HAD A FLASHLIGHT TO BEGIN WITH



BUT THE CULPRIT HAD ALSO REALIZED THE FACT ABOUT THE DIGITAL CAMERA

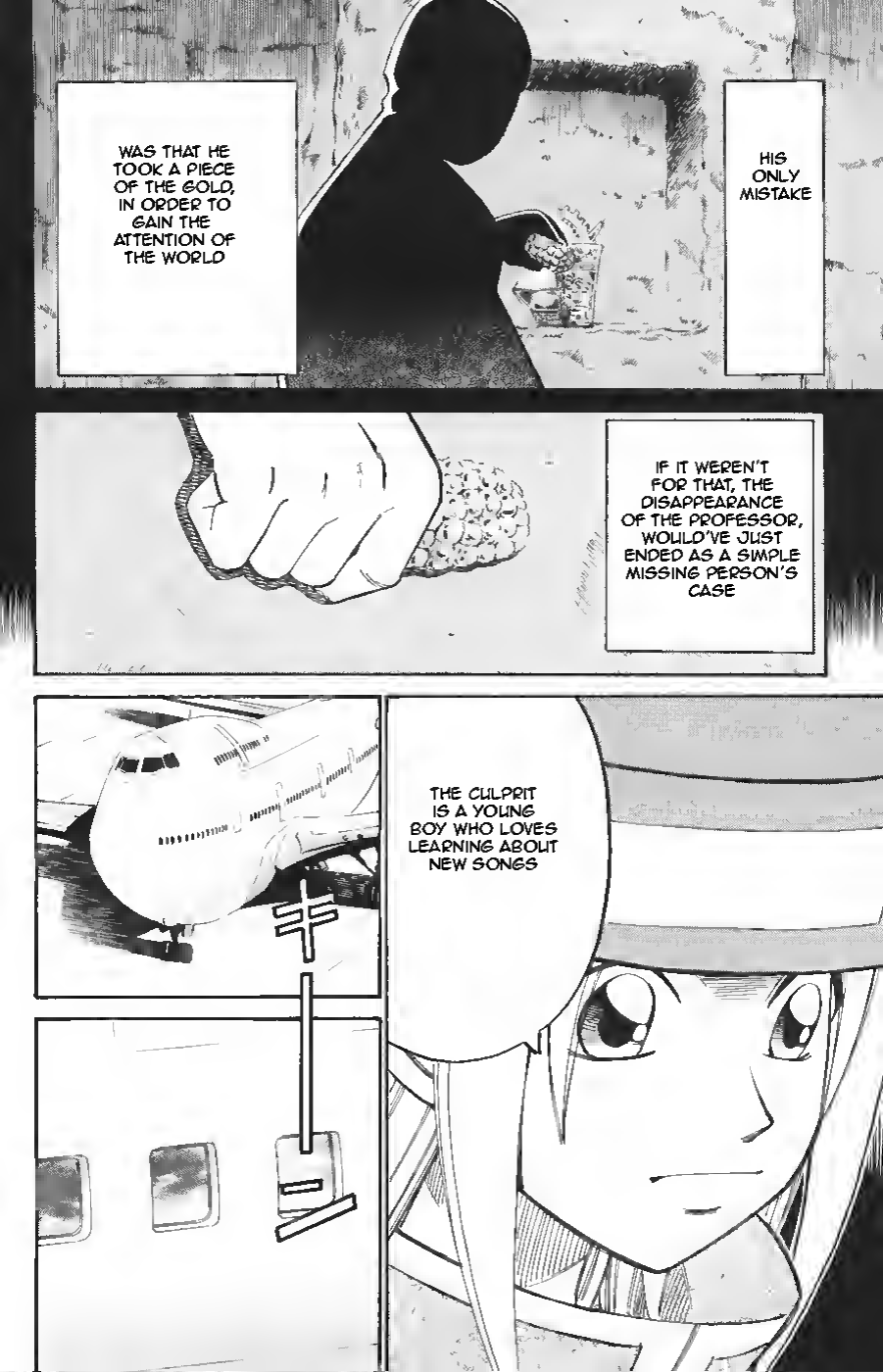
WHO WAS THE CULPRIT!?
IT WAS SUCH A HUGE DISCOVERY, AFTER ALL...
BUT, WHY ONLY A SINGLE PICTURE?
THE PROFESSOR ONLY TOOK A SINGLE PHOTO OF THE MURAL
THE REASON IS SIMPLE
!!
IT WAS BECAUSE, AFTER TAKING HIS PICTURE, HIS FLASHLIGHT WAS STOLEN

WHEN THE PROFESSOR'S BODY WAS FOUND, THE QUIPU WAS INSIDE HIS BAG
AND THE PROFESSOR WAS LEFT, ALONE, INSIDE THE ROOM OF THE MURALS
WHICH MEANS THAT THE CULPRIT CAN RETURN TO THE CITY, WITHOUT A QUIPU.....
THERE IS ONE PERSON WHO CAN
BUT, THERE'S NO ONE WHO CAN DO THAT, RIGHT...
THE CULPRIT, LEFT THE PROFESSOR ALONE, AND RETURNED ABOVE GROUND, WITHOUT THE USE OF A QUIPU...

BUT, THE FOUNDING OF THE BODY OF THE PROFESSOR, SCREWED UP HIS PLANS
HIS PLAN WAS TO HAVE THE PROFESSOR, GO MISSING, AND TO LEAVE THE FLASHLIGHT IN THE TUNNELS, WHILE IT WAS STILL ON, TO DRAIN THE BATTERIES
THE CULPRIT WAS IN A BIND, SO...
POLICIA
WOULD MOST DEFINATELY, START A SEARCH FOR IT
HE THOUGHT OF USING PROFESSOR GORJE
THE PROFESSOR, WHO IS OBSESSED WITH THE QUIPU....
WHERE IS THE QUIPU!?

AND, IN THE COMMOTION, PLANTED THE FLASHLIGHT NEXT TO THE PROFESSOR'S BODY
I'M SORRY
BUT WHY WAS THE CULPRIT, ABLE TO RETURN BACK TO THE CITY WITHOUT THE USE OF A QUIPU?
NO WAY ....
THE PLANE IS ALMOST LEAVING, PLEASE SHOW YOUR TICKETS....
IT'S BECAUSE THE CULPRIT IS ONE OF THE PRESERVERS OF THE HISTORY OF THE INCA

SOMEONE WHO PAINTS, AND PROTECTS THE MURALS
A PERSON WHO WAS TAUGHT THE SONGS, FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION...
HE HAD TO ELIMINATE HIM, AND THE EXISTANCE OF THE QUIPU
SO, WHEN AN OUTSIDER FOUND OUT ABOUT THE EXISTANCE OF THE MURALS
POLICIA
I WANT TO FINISH THE JOB I STARTED
IT'S JUST AS HE SAID
IT WAS BECAUSE HE COULD NOT HAVE THE PATH TO THE MURAL, CLOSED OFF
WHEN THE QUIPU RETURNED TO US


WAS THAT HE TOOK A PIECE OF THE GOLD, IN ORDER TO GAIN THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD
HIS ONLY MISTAKE
IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE PROFESSOR, WOULD'VE JUST ENDED AS A SIMPLE MISSING PERSON'S CASE
THE CULPRIT IS A YOUNG BOY WHO LOVES LEARNING ABOUT NEW SONGS

THE CULPRIT IS HULIO
SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THE MURAL!

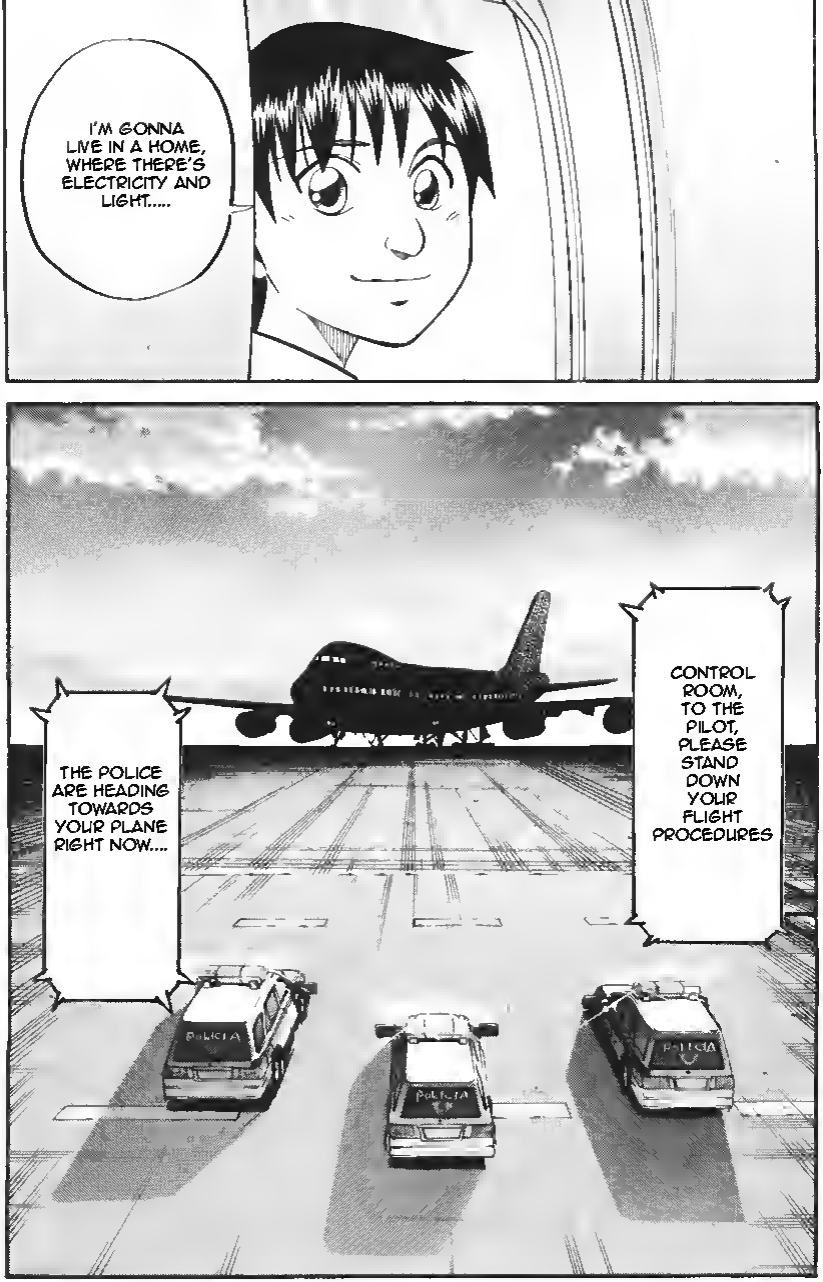
I'M RETURNING THE TREASURE OF THE ANDES, TO THE PEOPLE OF THE ANDES

THERE SHOULD BE OTHER PRESERVERS OF THE HISTORY, LIKE HULIO
I'LL DISCUSS IT WITH PROFESSOR GORJE, AND LEAVE THE MURAL ROOM TO THOSE PEOPLE

PLEASE FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS

YEAH, I'M ATTENDING A HIGH SCHOOL IN CALIFORNIA
WOW! GOOD LUCK

ARE YOU GOING TO AMERICA, BY YOURSELF?


I'M GONNA LIVE IN A HOME, WHERE THERE'S ELECTRICITY AND LIGHT.....
CONTROL ROOM, TO THE PILOT, PLEASE STAND DOWN YOUR FLIGHT PROCEDURES
THE POLICE ARE HEADING TOWARDS YOUR PLANE RIGHT NOW....
POLICIA
POLICIA
POLICIA

—Op.19:太陽(たいよう)とフォークロア<後編(こうへん)>　完(かん)—

The Sun and a Folklore　end

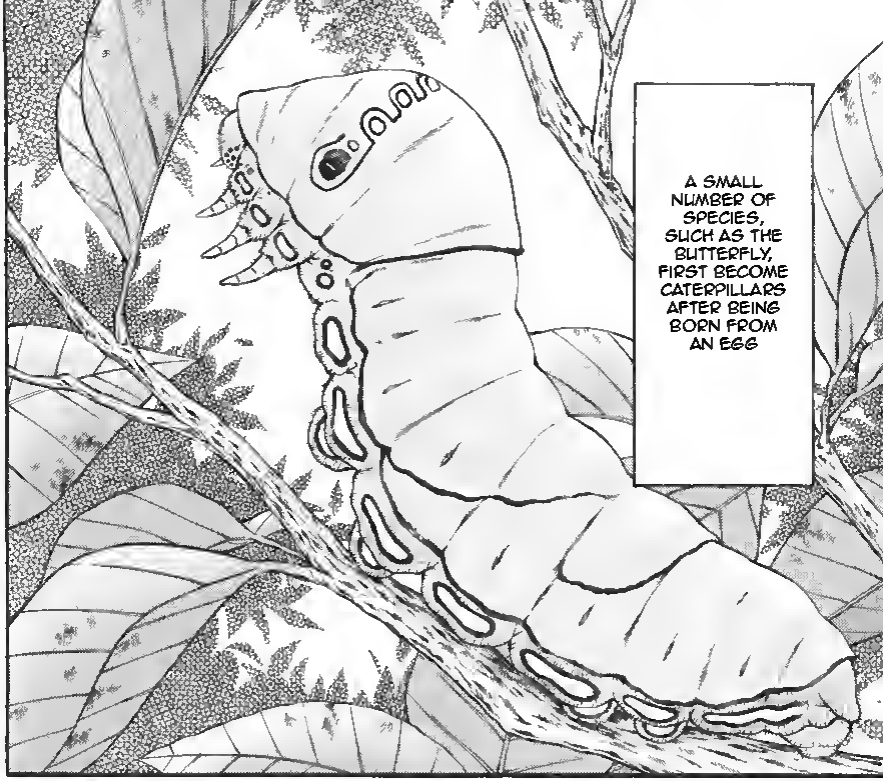
AIZEN HERE

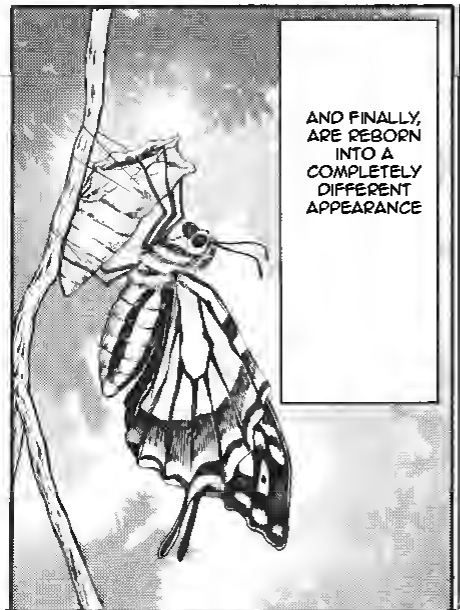
ANOTHER SIMPLE
RELEASE,

ENJOY :)

C.M.B. KATOU MOTOHIRO

Op.20
メタモルフォーゼ
The Metamorphosis


A SMALL NUMBER OF SPECIES, SUCH AS THE BUTTERFLY, FIRST BECOME CATERPILLARS AFTER BEING BORN FROM AN EGG


AND FINALLY, ARE REBORN INTO A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT APPEARANCE

AND THEN BECOME A PUPA, AND ENTER A HARD CASING, COMPLETELY MELTING AWAY THEIR FORMER BODY

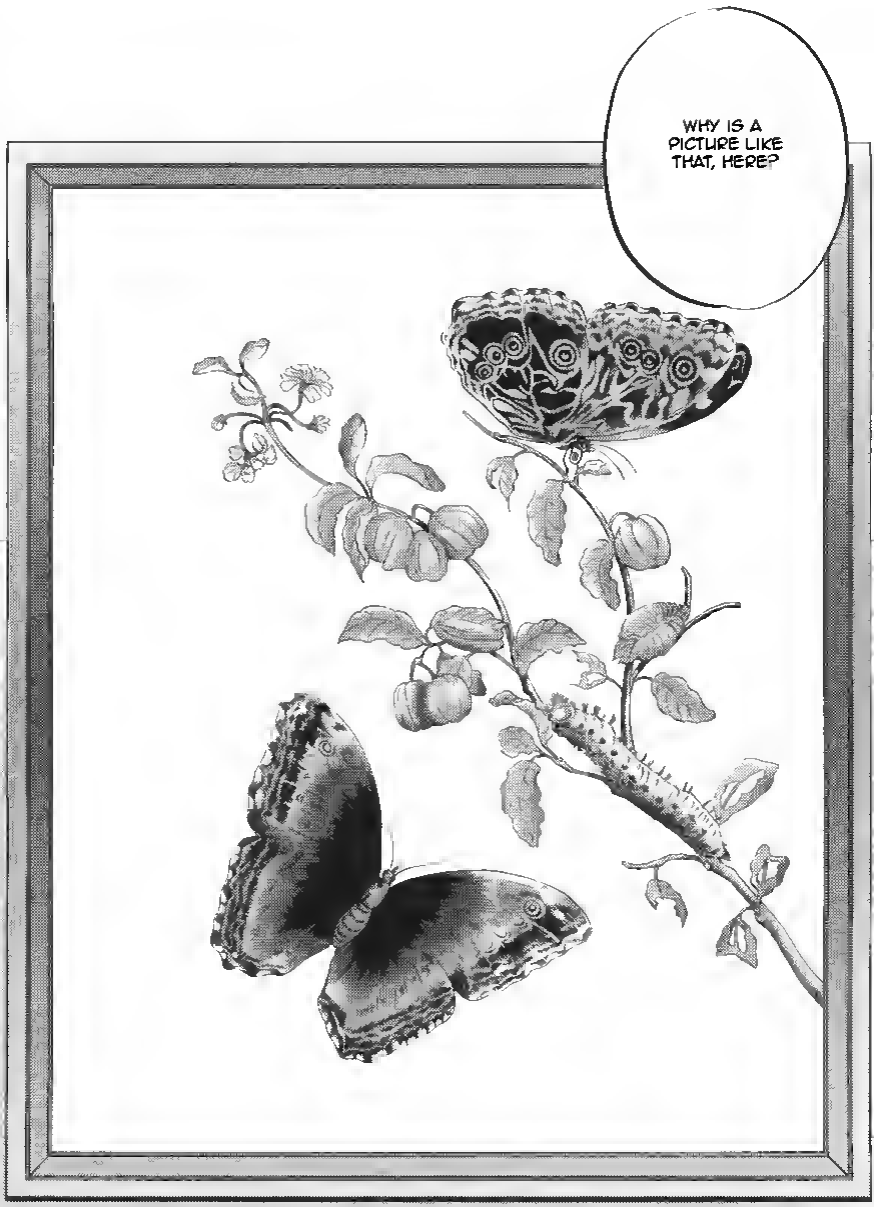
THIS IS WHAT WE CALL "METAMOR-PHOSIS"
図書室
SHINRA, PASS ME THE NEXT ONE
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY MAPS THAT WE HAVE TO RETURN?

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE COME TO THE LIBRARY
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THEY HAVE ANY RARE BOOKS THOUGH
APPARENTLY, THEY FORGOT ABOUT RETURNING THESE, AND SO THEY PILED UP
BUT WHY DO I HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO HELP....
IF WE ONLY COLLECTED BOOKS THAT YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN, ONLY MARTIANS WOULD COME TO THIS LIBRARY
WELL, ANYONE WHO WANTS TO SPEND THEIR AFTERNOONS IN A LIBRARY, WOULD BE CONSIDERED A LONER
BUT THERE AREN'T ANY EARTHLINGS IN THIS LIBRARY, EITHER

10TH GRADER
IMURA HIROMI
ガラッ
HMM?
MISS NANASE, LOOK, IT'S A LONER
WHAT ARE YOU READING? MISS NANASE SAID THAT ANYONE WHO SPENDS THEIR TIME AT THE LIBRARY IN THE AFTERNOON IS....
WHAT?

ガラッ
OH?
HOHOHO
YOU SHOULD BE QUIET WHEN YOU'RE IN A LIBRARY, SHINRA
I CAN'T BELIEVE THERE ARE 2 PEOPLE, OTHER THAN OUR REGULAR, IMURA, HERE IN THE LIBRARY
LOOKS LIKE THERE ARE QUITE A FEW PEOPLE HERE TODAY
JAPANESE TEACHER
SHIGA YOSHIO

OH, SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...
Y... YES, QUITE UNUSUAL
AH! VICE PRINCIPAL
WELL THEN, I'LL SEE YOU LATER...
PLEASE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE INCREASE IN BUDGET FOR THE LIBRARY
VICE PRINCIPAL
MORI TETSUJI
WOW!!

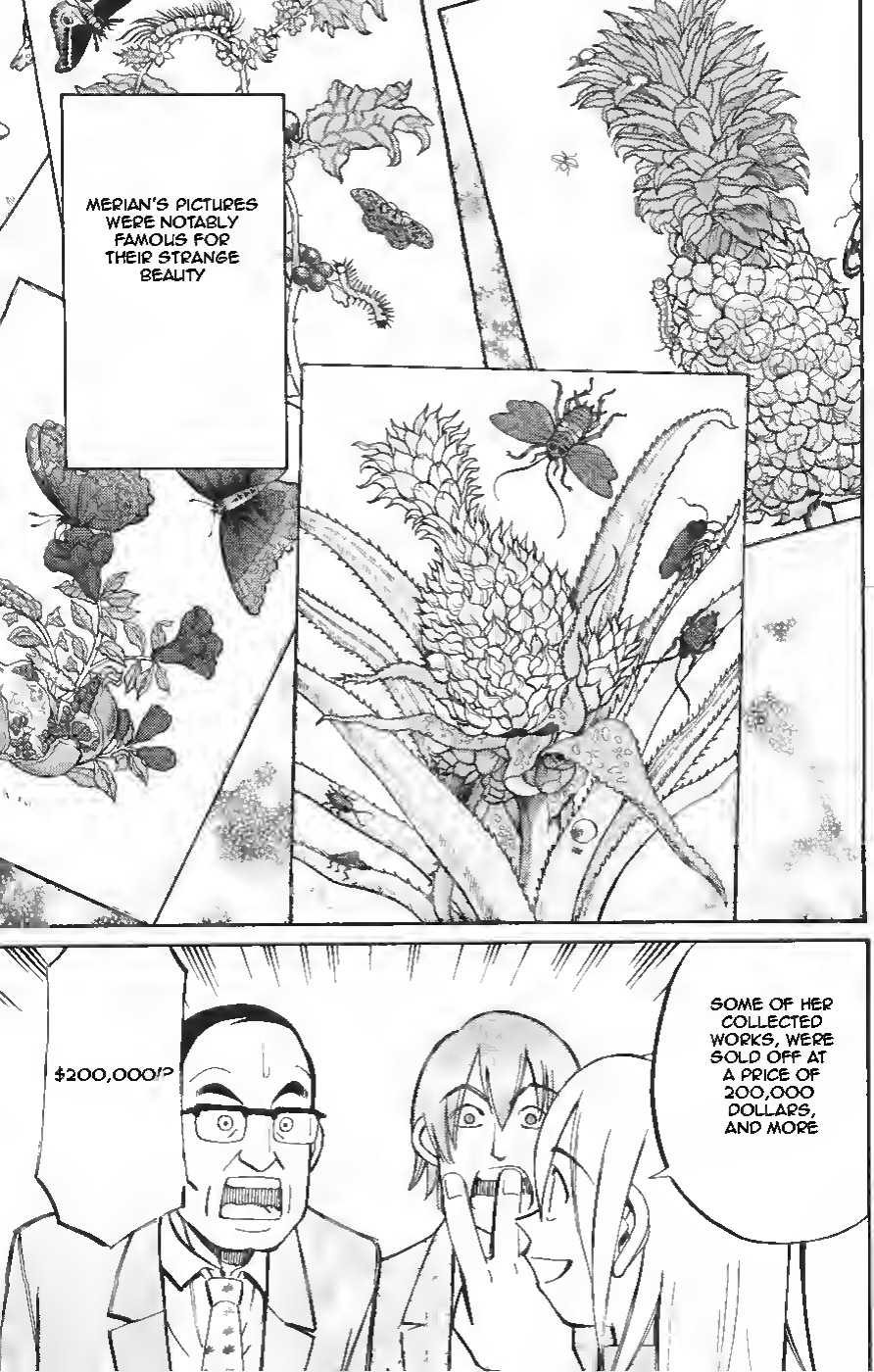

WHY IS A PICTURE LIKE THAT, HERE?

応接室
MARIA SYBILLA MERIAN'S PICTURE?
CHAIRMAN, ARE YOU AWARE OF WHO THIS IS?
NO....

GRANDPA...
IT WAS ACCUMULATING DUST IN THE STORAGE ROOM, SO I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE TO HANG IT UP IN THE LIBRARY
IS IT A FAMOUS PICTURE OR SOMETHING?
A BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY, WITH A GROTESQUE LOOKING CATERPILLAR....
BUT IT'S SUCH A STRANGE PICTURE
MARIA SIBYLLA MERIAN, WAS A GERMAN ARTIST FROM THE 17TH CENTURY
EXPLAIN IT TO US!
IF YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE ANY INTEREST IN IT, THEN I'LL TAKE IT OFF YOUR HANDS...

SHE'S AN AMAZING WOMAN, WHO WAS ALSO AN ACCOMPLISHED BUSINESS WOMAN, AN ENTOMOLOGIST, TRAVELLER, AND HAS EVEN RELEASED A BOOK THAT BECAME A BEST SELLER
Anna Maria Sibylla Merian
AND, SPENT HER LIFE RESEARCHING AND DOCUMENTING INSECTS
SHE DREW SAMPLES OF FLOWERS THAT WERE USED AS A DESIGN FOR POTTERY AND STITCHWORK FOR CLOTHES

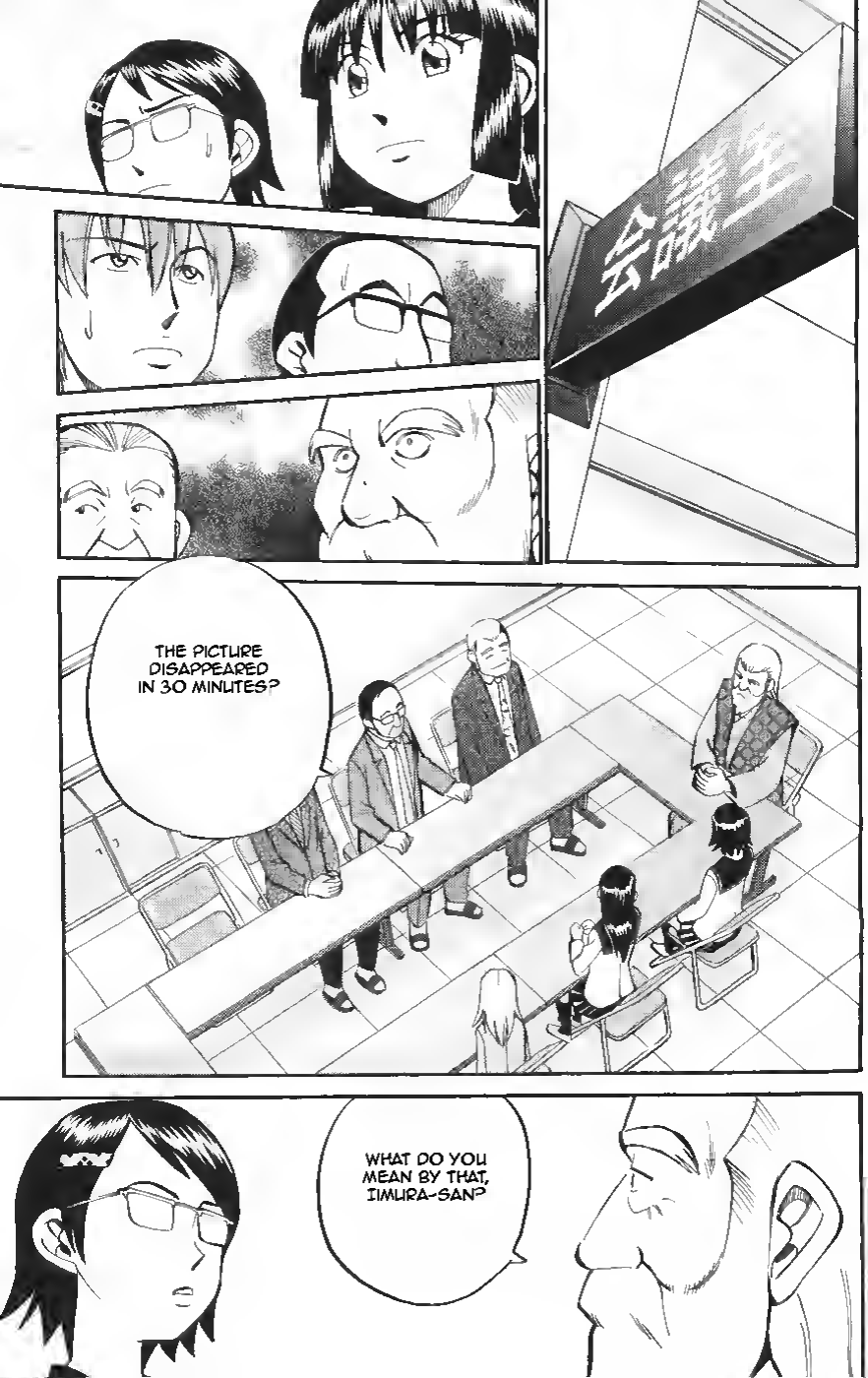
NOT REALLY, NO
THAT'S QUITE RARE, BEING A SCIENTIST AND AN ARTIST AT THE SAME TIME
IN THE PAST, THEY HAD TO RELY ON DRAWINGS IN ORDER TO DOCUMENT THINGS
RIGHT NOW, WE CAN EASILY DOCUMENT THINGS BY TAKING PICTURES, BUT
AND ALSO, THOSE PICTURES, HAD GREAT VALUE, ARTISTICALLY
THAT'S WHY, RESEARCHERS WHO STUDIED ANIMALS AND LANDSCAPES, NEEDED TO BE ABLE TO DRAW WITH GREAT ACCURACY


MERIAN'S PICTURES WERE NOTABLY FAMOUS FOR THEIR STRANGE BEAUTY
SOME OF HER COLLECTED WORKS, WERE SOLD OFF AT A PRICE OF 200,000 DOLLARS, AND MORE
$200,000!?

THIS ONE PAGE WOULD ALSO BE WORTH ABOUT 10 GRAND
MAYBE WE SHOULD PUT IT IN THE SAFE....
LET'S LEAVE IT WHERE IT IS RIGHT NOW!
HAHAHA!
AND WHAT IF IT STILL GETS STOLEN?
IT'S A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THE STUDENTS BE ABLE TO SEE A REAL WORK OF ART! BESIDES, IF NO ONE HERE SPEAKS ABOUT IT'S TRUE VALUE, IT WON'T GET STOLEN
SIGH....
IF THAT HAPPENS, THEN SOMEONE IN THIS ROOM WOULD BE THE CULPRIT!

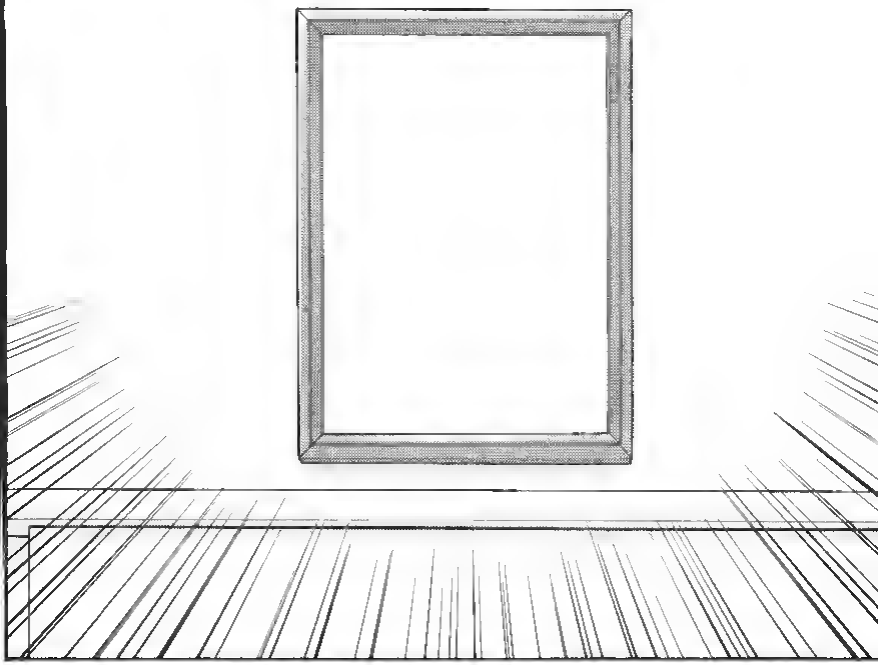
4 DAYS LATER
図書室
I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE STOLE IT
PRINCIPAL, LET'S TAKE CARE OF THIS, IN-HOUSE...
W, WELL THEN, WE SHOULDL HAVE THE PEOPLE WHO KNEW ABOUT THE VALUE OF THIS PICTURE, ASSEMBLE INSIDE OUR MEETING ROOM


会議室
THE PICTURE DISAPPEARED IN 30 MINUTES?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT, IIMURA-SAN?

THE PICTURE WAS STOLEN DURING THE TIMEFRAME OF 3:30 AND 4 PM
I WAS AT THE LIBRARY FROM 3 PM
AROUND 3:30, MR SHIGA CAME BY
3:30
I HAVE A MEETING TODAY, SO I'LL BE HANDING OVER THE KEYS TO YOU. WHEN YOU'RE DONE WITH THEM, GIVE THEM BACK TO THE TEACHERS LOUNGE
UNDER-STOOD
THE PICTURE WAS STILL THERE
AFTER ABOUT 10 MINUTES, THE VICE PRINCIPLA CAME IN....
3:40

WHERE IS MR. SHIGA?
IN THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE
SIGH, THIS IS A PROBLEM
AT THIS POINT, I HAND'T CHECKED WHETHER THE PICTURE WAS STILL THERE
AND THEN, AROUND 4 PM....
MM
4:00



AND SO, I CAME TO THE TEACHERS LOUNGE, ASAP...

THE PICTURE DISAPPEARED?
YES, ALMOST AS IF BY MAGIC

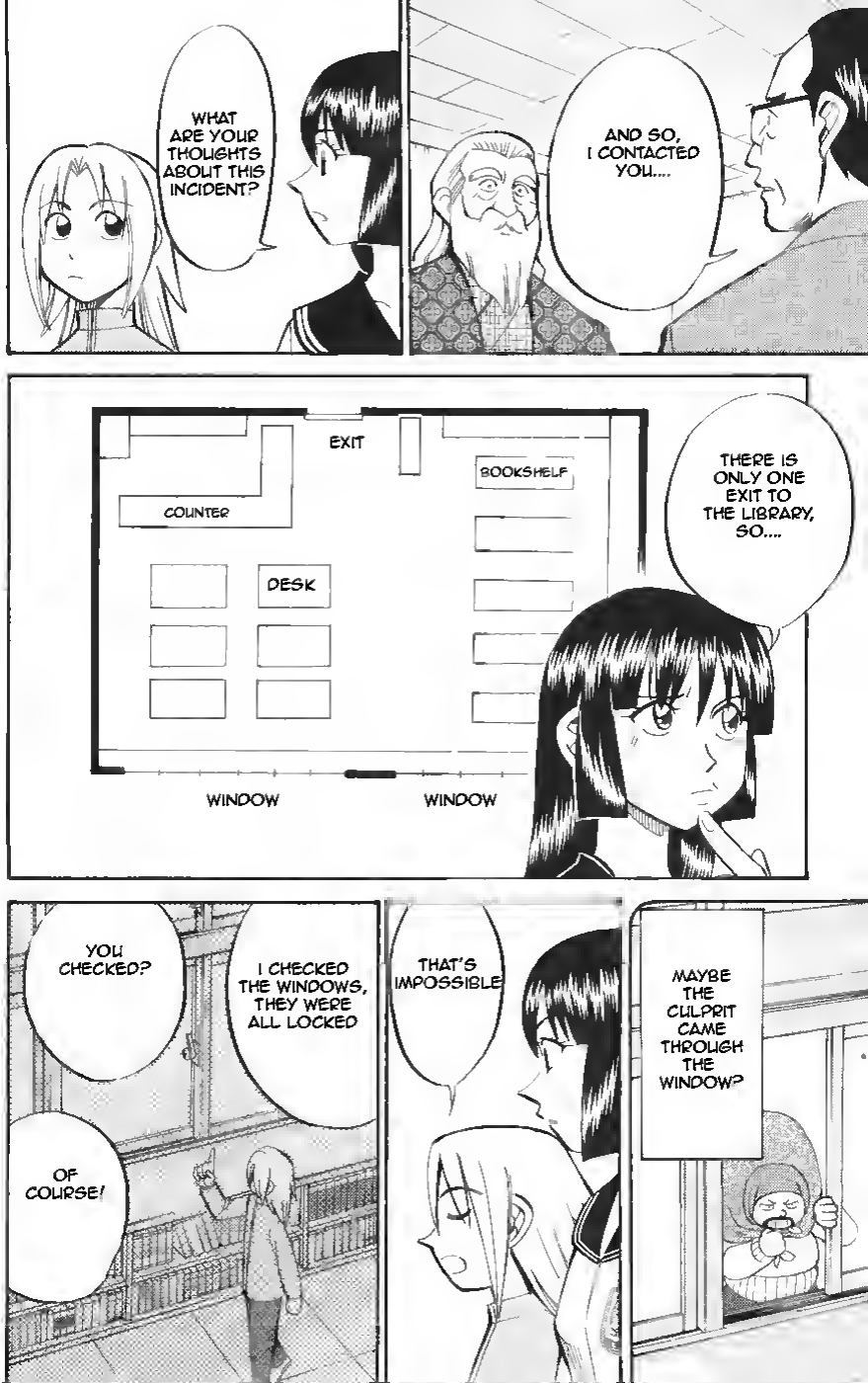
MR. SHIGA, WAS THAT STORY, ACCURATE?
YES...
WHEN I CAME OUT OF THE LIBRARY AROUND 3.30, THE PICTURE WAS STILL THERE
I RETURNED TO THE TEACHERS LOUNGE
AND WAS DISCUSSING WITH THE OTHER TEACHERS, WHICH NEW BOOKS WE SHOULD HAVE FOR THE LIBRARY
BUT HAVING THE POPULAR BOOKS, IN, IS....
YEAH, THEY'LL GET BORED OF IT IN HALF A YEAR

MR SHIGA!
MAYBE WE SHOULD LET THE STUDENTS CHOOSE.....
I'VE HAD THE SAME DISCUSSION THESE PAST 4 DAYS
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE PICTURE!!
I'VE GIVEN THE KEYS TO IIMURA..
THE VICE PRINCIPAL, CAME BY AT AROUND 3:45....
I NEED YOU TO STAY IN THE LIBRARY!
3:45
MR SHIGA!
AND, AT 4 PM
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT THE PICTURE, THEN GIVE IT TO THE BANK FOR SAFE KEEPING!!
BESIDES, HAVING SUCH AN EXPENSIVE PICTURE HANGING UP...
SHHH, MR SHIGA, YOUR VOICE IS TOO LOUD!
THE PICTURE..!

YOU SOULDN'T RUN THROUGH THE HALLS....
VICE PRINCIPAL! CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN, IMMEDIATELY!!
THE PICTURE IS GONE!!
IIMURA, BRING THE PRINCIPAL HERE!
RIGHT!

THE PICTURE!!
AND SO, THE CHAIRMAN, ARRIVED...
THEIR ACCOUNT, IS ACCURATE
VICE PRINC-IPAL
HMM...
IT WAS FOOLISH FOR US TO LEAVE THE PICTURE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
AND THEN I RETURNED TO THE TEACHERS LOUNGE
WHEN I CAME TO THE LIBRARY AT AROUND 3.30, THERE WAS ONLY ONE STUDENT INSIDE

MR. SHIGA, YOUR VOICE IS TOO LOUD!
BESIDES, HAVING SUCH AN EXPENSIVE PICTURE HANGING UP....
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT THE PICTURE, THEN GIVE IT TO THE BANK FOR SAFE KEEPING!
MR. SHIGA! THE PICTURE...!
AND THEN, AT 4 PM
THE PICTURE IS GONE!!
YOU SHOULDN'T RUN THROUGH THE HALLS....
RIGHT!
VICE PRINCIPAL! CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN!!


WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THIS INCIDENT?
AND SO, I CONTACTED YOU....
EXIT
BOOKSHELF
COUNTER
DESK
WINDOW
WINDOW
THERE IS ONLY ONE EXIT TO THE LIBRARY, SO....
YOU CHECKED?
I CHECKED THE WINDOWS, THEY WERE ALL LOCKED
OF COURSE!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
MAYBE THE CULPRIT CAME THROUGH THE WINDOW?

IT'S CLEAR WHO THE CULPRIT, IS
SO, WHO IS THE THIEF...?
WHICH MEANS THAT THE PERSON WHO WAS IN THE LIBRARY, ALONE, WAS....
THEIR STORIES, MATCH
PRINCIPAL .....
OUR STUDENT, IIMURA

IT'S A VERY DIFFICULT THING TO SAY, BUT, IIMURA-SAN...
BUT, IN THIS SITUATION, ONLY YOU COULD'VE....
NO, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING...
I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING!!
YOU WERE THE ONLY PERSON IN THE ROOM, WHEN THE PICTURE DISAPPEARED
IT WASN'T ME!!

IT'S OUR FAULT FOR LEAVING THAT PICTURE THERE, WITHOUT ANY SECURITY MEASURES!!
STOP THIS!!
CHAIRMAN ....
MR SHIGA! THAT'S THE CHAIRMAN YOU'RE SPEAKING TO...
WE SHOULDN'T ACCUSE OUR STUDENTS, WITHOUT ANY EVIDENCE!
COME HERE, FOR A SEC
GRANDPA!
YOU'RE RIGHT... WE SHOULD DROP THIS....

THIS WAS WHERE THE PICTURE WAS STOLEN
WHY ARE WE BACK HERE, IN THE LIBRARY?
WHO IS THE THIEF...
SO, HOW WAS IT STOLEN?

GRANDPA
IF I FIND THE PICTURE, CAN I DISPLAY IT AT MY MUSEUM?
THIS AGAIN!?
THIS KID...
IT'S SOMETHING WE GAVE UP ON ONCE, SO IF YOU FIND IT, I'LL LET YOU KEEP IT!
OKAY, IT'S A DEAL
CHAIRMAN!
THAT'S FINE WITH ME!

I SHALL ESCORT YOU TO THE "WUNDER KAMMER"
今日借りた本の返却日
5
月
15
NOW THEN...

AND, AT THE TIME, THERE WAS ONLY ONE PERSON WITHIN THIS ROOM....
A PICTURE DISAPPEARED IN THIS ROOOM, WITHIN THE TIME-SPAN OF 30 MINUTES
BUT IT WASN'T ME....!
WHICH WAS YOU, IIMURA-SAN
IIMURA-SAN SAID THAT SHE DID NOT SEE ANYONE TOUCH THE PICTURE, WITHIN THOSE 30 MINUTES... DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S STRANGE?
PLEASE THINK BACK TO HER TESTIMONY

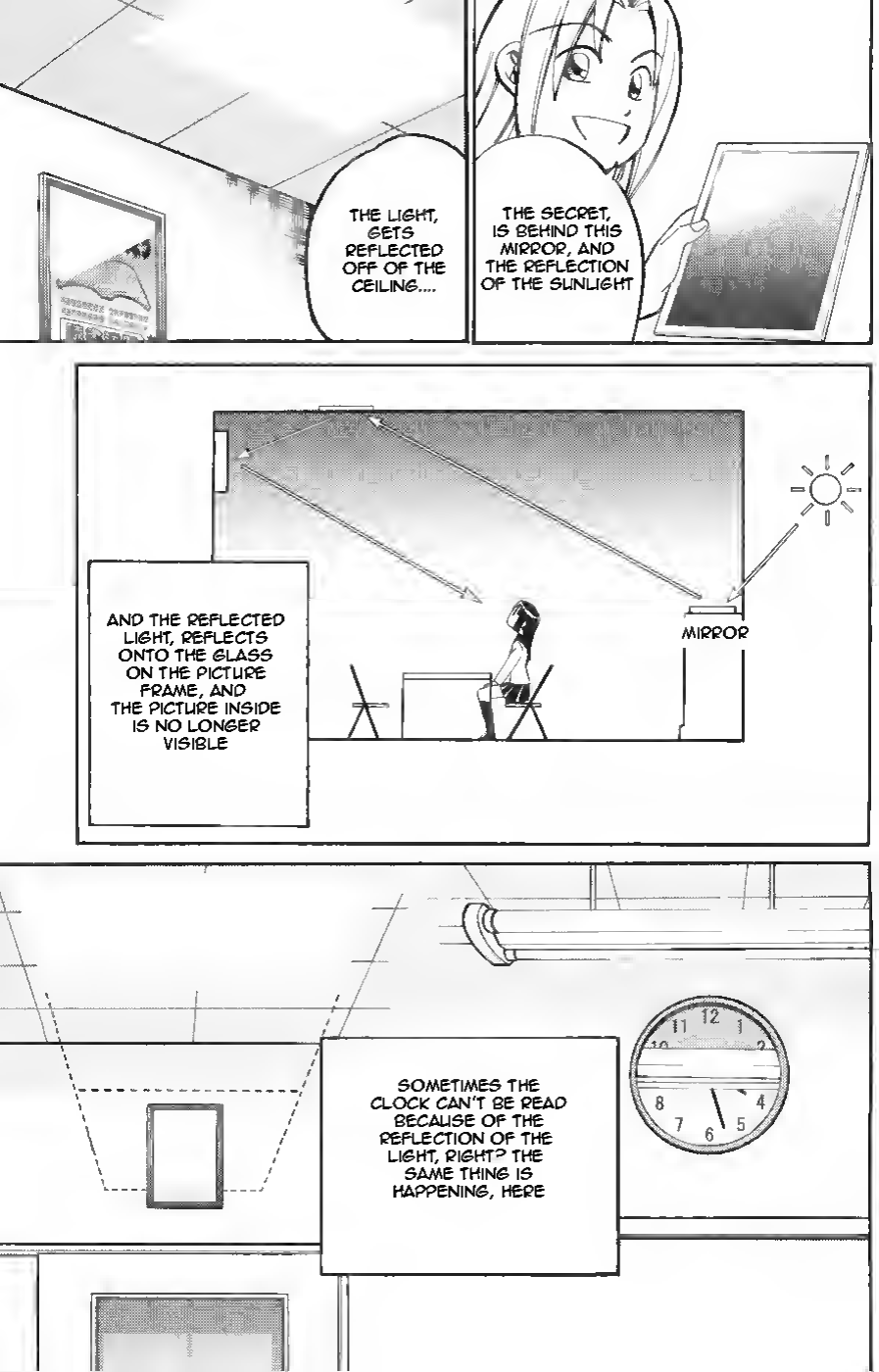
OF COURSE IT'S STRANGE, THE PICTURE DISAPPEARED LIKE SMOKE...
NOT THAT
IF IIMURA-SAN IS THE THIEF, THEN SHE WOULD'VE SAID "MAYBE SOMEONE STOLE IT WHILE I WASN'T LOOKING"
BUT, FOR HER TO SAY "I DID NOT SEE ANYONE TOUCH IT", IS LIKE SAYING THAT SHE STOLE IT HERSELF
IF SHE TRULY IS THE CULPRIT, THEN IT'S SOMETHING SHE WOULDN'T POSSIBLY SAY
IN OTHER WORDS, IIMURA-SAN IS NOT THE THIEF
SIGH

THE PICTURE WASN'T STOLEN
IT REALLY DID "DISAPPEAR"
SO, HOW DID THE THIEF, STEAL IT...?
IT DISAPPEARED, USING SOMETHING FROM THIS ROOM

MISS NANASE, SIT HERE, WHERE IIMURA-SAN SAT
BRING ME THAT PICTURE FRAME!
PUT A POSTER, IN PLACE OF THE PICTURE
HERE
?
AND PUT IT BACK

A MIRROR?
YEAH..
MISS NANASE, CAN YOU SEE THE POSTER?
WHAT ABOUT NOW?

IT'S GONE!!
THE POSTER IS RIGHT HERE
THE POSTER DISAPPEARED!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, TATSUKI
WHAT? BUT IT'S....
IT ONLY APPEARS TO HAVE DISAPPEARED, FROM WHERE MISS NANASE IS STANDING AT


THE LIGHT, GETS REFLECTED OFF OF THE CEILING....
THE SECRET, IS BEHIND THIS MIRROR, AND THE REFLECTION OF THE SUNLIGHT
AND THE REFLECTED LIGHT, REFLECTS ONTO THE GLASS ON THE PICTURE FRAME, AND THE PICTURE INSIDE IS NO LONGER VISIBLE
MIRROR
SOMETIMES THE CLOCK CAN'T BE READ BECAUSE OF THE REFLECTION OF THE LIGHT, RIGHT? THE SAME THING IS HAPPENING, HERE

THE PICTURE WASN'T STOLEN
IT WAS JUST THE LIGHT, REFLECTING OFF THE GLASS, THAT MADE IT APPEAR AS THOUGH IT WAS
読書週間
THE MIRROR WAS PLANTED HERE
AND WAS USED TO HIDE THE PICTURE, FROM IIMURA-SAN, AT AROUND 4 PM

BUT, HOW WOULD THE CULPRIT, KNOW THAT IIMURA-SAN WOULD LOOK AT THE PICTURE AT EXACTLY 4 PM?
THAT'S WHY THE CULPRIT, NEEDED TO WAIT
HE KEPT WAITING FOR IIMURA-SAN TO LOOK AT THE PICTURE
IT'S PROBABLY THE FOURTH DAY THAT THE CULPRIT SET THIS UP
THE 4TH DAY?
MM
AND FINALLY, THE DAY CAME WHEN SHE LOOKED UP AT 4PM...
!?
THE PICTURE ....!!

YOU SHOULDN'T RUN THROUGH THE HALLWAY...
THE CULPRIT RAN TO THE LIBRARY IN ORDER TO GET THERE BEFORE ANYONE ELSE...
AND EVEN THOUGH THE PICTURE WAS STILL THERE...
IT'S GONE!!
IIMURA, GO AND GET THE PRINCIPAL!
VICE PRINCIPAL! CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN!!
AFTER GETTING RID OF THE TWO...

HE STOLE THE PICTURE
4 DAYS SINCE HE SET UP THE PLAN
THE CULPRIT CREATED AN ALIBI BY BEING IN THE TEACHERS LOUNGE
AND TRIED TO SHIFT THE BLAME ONTO IIMURA-SAN
THE PERSON WHO PLANNED ALL THIS, WAS....

YOU, MR. SHIGA
WILL YOU PLEASE EXCUSE YOURSELVES
N.... NO, THIS ISN'T....

I'M COUNTING ON YOU
I WANT YOU TO KEEP QUIET ABOUT THIS INCIDENT
ガラガラ
ガラガラ
バタン
ガラガラ

IT LOOKS LIKE MR. SHIGA QUIT
HOW STUPID....
I WAS... SUCH AN IDIOT....

YOU KNOW, MERIAN, THE PERSON WHO DREW THAT PICTURE,
MADE A CLAIM THAT, BASED ON HER OBSERVATION, INSECTS WERE BORN FROM EGGS AND UNDERWENT METAMORPHOSIS
IN AN AGE WHERE PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT BUGS WERE BORN IN MUD,
SHE DIVORCED HER HUSBAND, WHO DIDN'T UNDERSTAND HER RESEARCH, AND RAISED 2 DAUGHTERS WHILE RUNNING AN ARTISTS WORKSHOP
I SAW IT HAPPEN!
EVEN THOUGH THIS WAS SOMETHING THAT COULD'VE PUT HER UNDER INVESTIGATION AS A WITCH, AND KILLED BECAUSE OF IT

FURTHERMORE, SHE RISKED HER LIFE ON A VOYAGE, DESPITE BEING OVER 50 YEARS OLD!!

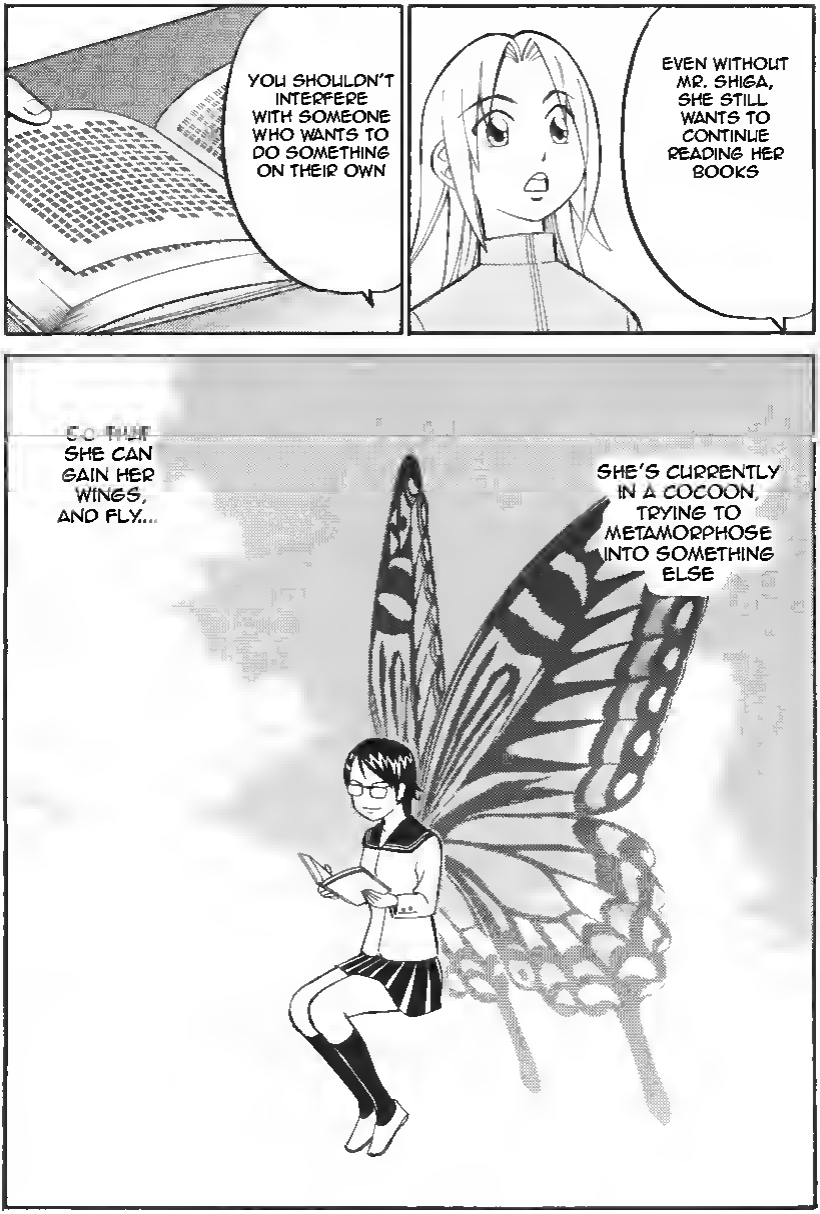
SHE WENT TO SURINAME, SOUTHERN AMERICA, AND KEPT DOING HER RESEARCH ON INSECTS IN THE JUNGLE....

EVEN AFTER HER DEATH, HER PICTURE IS USED IN GERMANY ON THE 500 MARK NOTE AND ON STAMPS

ALSO, MERIAN'S GRAND-DAUGHTER, BECOMES THE WIFE OF THE GREAT MATHEMATICIAN, EULER

AND, AFTER HER RETURN, RELEASED HER BEST SELLER, "METAMORPHOSIS INSECTORUM SURINAMENSIUM"

SHE WAS LIKE A HUGE BALL OF ENERGY
WANNA COME SEE MERIAN'S PICTURE AT MY MUSEUM? I'M SURE IT'LL CHEAR YOU UP!
NOT TODAY...
SHE SOUNDS AMAZING
WELL, LET'S GET GOING
I WANT TO FINISH READING THIS BOOK
NO, THIS IS FINE
WHY? IF WE TAKE HER OUTSIDE, IT'LL HELP CHEER HER UP FASTER...


YOU SHOULDN'T INTERFERE WITH SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO DO SOMETHING ON THEIR OWN
EVEN WITHOUT MR. SHIGA, SHE STILL WANTS TO CONTINUE READING HER BOOKS
SO THAT SHE CAN GAIN HER WINGS, AND FLY...
SHE'S CURRENTLY IN A COCOON, TRYING TO METAMORPHOSE INTO SOMETHING ELSE

—Op.20: メタモルフォーゼ 完(かん)—

The Metamorphosis end

AIZEN HERE

ONE MORE
CHAPTAH AND
THIS VOLUME
IS DONE! YAY

C.M.B. KATOU MOTOHIRO

C.M.B. KATOU MOTOHIRO

Op.21

死滅回遊

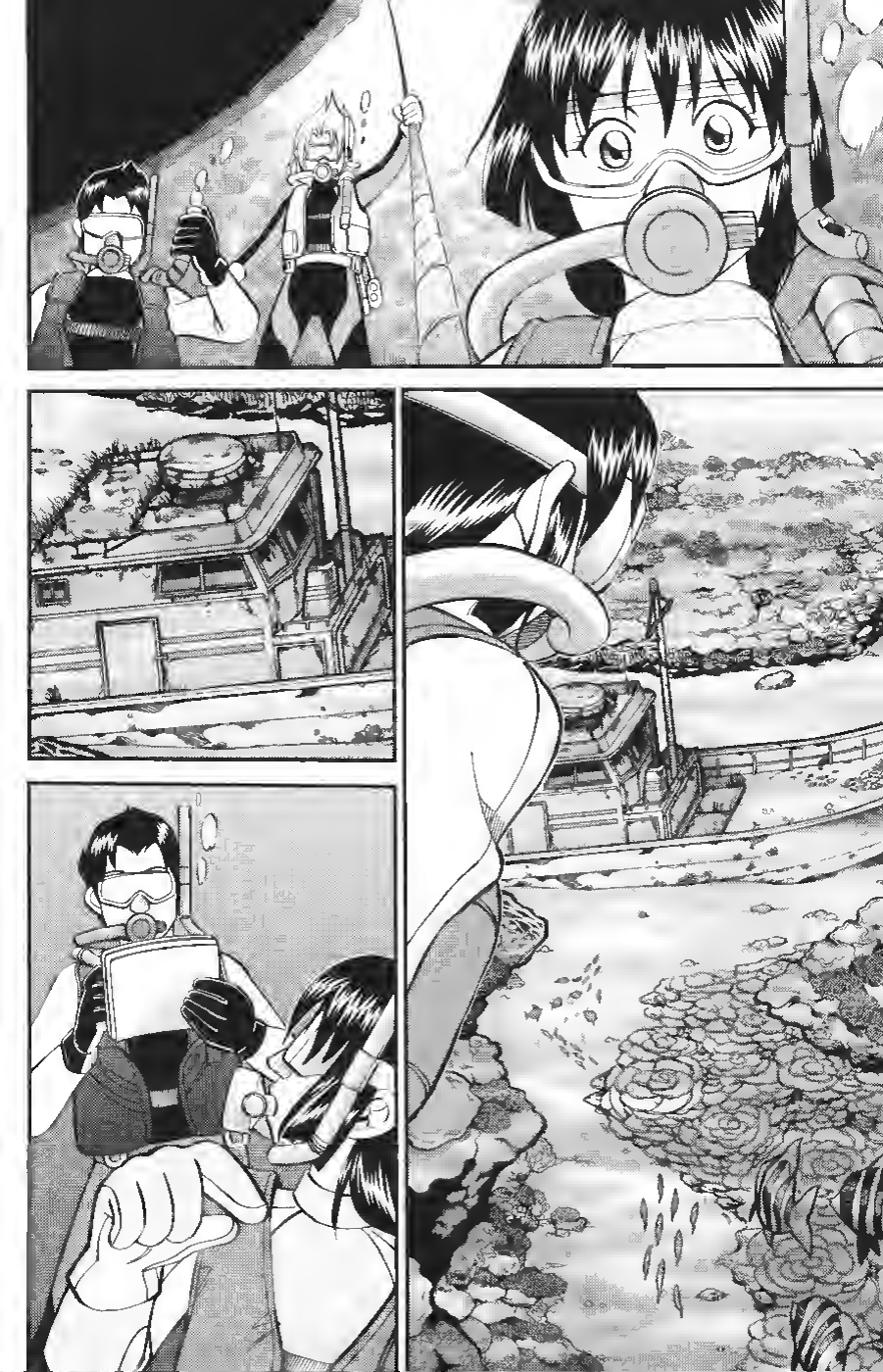
Abortive migration

OKINAWA
I'M SURPRISED
I NEVER KNEW YOU HAD THIS HOBBY OF SCUBA DIVING, SHINRA

I'M GONNA TAKE PICTURES OF UNDERWATER SEA CREATURES!
THIS TIME, I'M GONNA CONCENTRATE ON SEA ANEMONE'S!
YEAH, I THOUGHT IT WAS SOMETHING LIKE THIS
SAKAKI-SAN, THANKS FOR WAITING
NOBUAKI'S WIFE, TSURUOKA MIKI
PRESIDENT, TSURUOKA DIVING SCHOOL TSURUOKA NOBUAKI

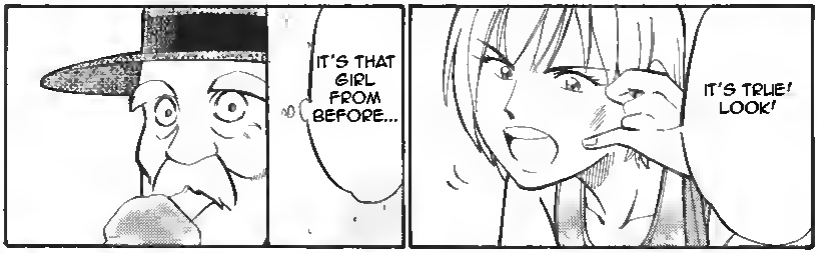
PLEASE, TAKE CARE OF US
HEY, MIKI! WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK!
OKAY, SO, I'M GOING NOW
I NEED TO GO BUY SOMETHING!
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A SPOUSAL FIGHT
DON'T WORRY! WE HAVE SOMEONE WHO IS WORKING FOR US PART TIME, ON THE BOAT AS WELL!
UMM...

GRANPDA, SEE YOU LATER!
I GUESS I'LL GO FIND A GOOD PLACE TO EAT SOME OKINAWA SOBA!
NOW THEN
PLEASE FOLLOW MY INSTRUC-TIONS
AND DO NOT LOSE SIGHT OF YOUR POSITION



A SUNKEN SHIP
ハシャ
IT'S TRUE!! NOBUAKI SLAPPED ME!!
THIS PURPLE YAM ICECREAM IS DELICIOUS

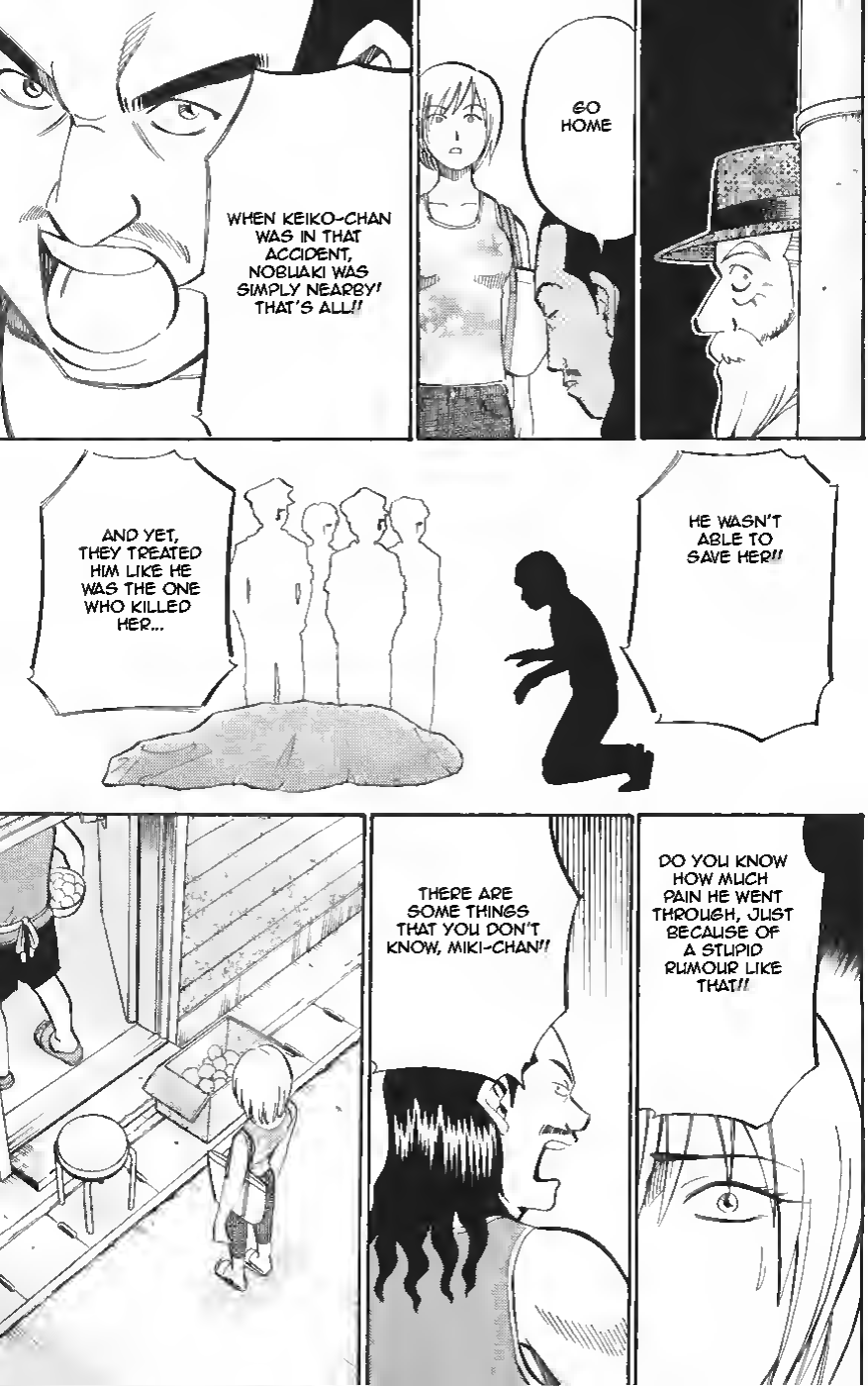
I'VE BEEN WITH HIM SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, BUT THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE HIM....
ARE YOU SURE? MIKI-CHAN


IT'S THAT GIRL FROM BEFORE...
IT'S TRUE! LOOK!

NOBUAKI HAD KEPT SOME MEMENTOS FROM HIS PAST WIFE, HIDDEN IN THE CLOSET!
WHAT WAS THE REASON FOR YOUR FIGHT?
NOBUAKI'S FRIEND
HANAGASA SHIZUO

SO THAT GIRL IS HIS SECOND WIFE....
THAT'S RIGHT!!
BY PAST WIFE, YOU MEAN KEIKO-CHAN, WHO DIED IN A DIVING ACCIDENT, 3 YEARS AGO?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING
WHEN I WAS CLEANING THE CLOSET, KEIKO-CHAN'S DIVING SUIT WAS STORED THERE
NOBUAKI!! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS...

IT'S TRUE!!
HE'S THE TYPE OF GUY THAT'S AFRAID OF HARMING A FROG
SERIOUSLY?
AND HE LOOKED AT ME LIKE HE WAS THINKING "I'M GONNA KILL YOU!"
MAYBE THE RUMOURS WERE TRUE
THAT NOBUAKI KILLED KEIKO-SAN


WHEN KEIKO-CHAN WAS IN THAT ACCIDENT, NOBUAKI WAS SIMPLY NEARBY! THAT'S ALL!!
GO HOME
AND YET, THEY TREATED HIM LIKE HE WAS THE ONE WHO KILLED HER...
HE WASN'T ABLE TO SAVE HER!!
THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW, MIKI-CHAN!!
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH PAIN HE WENT THROUGH, JUST BECAUSE OF A STUPID RUMOUR LIKE THAT!!

KEIKO-SAN....
WHAT KIND OF PERSON, WERE YOU?
WELL, YOU DID TAKE TONS OF PICTURES
I'M TOO TIRED TO MOVE....
ドドド

AH!
IT'S A PICTURE OF MY PREVIOUS WIFE
WHAT?
WON'T YOUR CURRENT WIFE, GET ANGRY IF SHE SAW THIS?
THAT'S WHY I HID IT, BUT....

MY LAST WIFE, DIED IN A DIVING ACCIDENT, 3 YEARS AGO
REALLY?
ドゥゥゥ
WE WERE BOTH DIVING IN THE NORTHERN SEAS....
THE DIVE ITSELF, STARTED OUT STRANGELY
EVEN THOUGH THE WATERS WERE COLD, BECAUSE WE WERE IN THE NORTH,
THE OCEAN THAT DAY, HAD A LOT OF EXOTIC FISH FROM WARMER WATERS
AND, FOR SOME REASON, THEY WERE ALL DEAD

IT'S "EXTINCTIVE MIGRATION"
FISH FROM WARMER WATERS, GETS PUSHED NORTH DUE TO CURRENTS...
AND DIE IN THE COLDER WATERS
RIGHT AFTER WE SAW THOSE DEAD FISH, THAT THING APPEARED
RIGHT, EXTINCTIVE MIGRATION

A HUMPBACK WHALE!!

IT WAS A BRILLIANTLY BEAUTIFUL BEHEMOTH....
NEARLY A MIRACLE THAT WE WERE ABLE TO SEE IT
KEIKO WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE IT...
!?
I LOST TRACK OF HER BENEATH THE SHADOW OF THE WHALE...
BUT THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW HER
AND A WEEK LATER, HER BODY WAS FOUND

IF MIKI FOUND THIS, AGAIN....
IT'S TRUE... I SHOULD REALLY GET RID OF THIS
THIS IS...
THE CAMERA WAS WRAPPED AROUND HER BODY
IT'S THE LAST PICTURE THAT KEIKO TOOK

THE WATERS ARE REALLY MUDDY
THIS PICTURE IS OF THE EXTINCTIVE MIGRATION
AND THIS IS THE HUMPBACK WHALE
AND THIS IS THE LAST PHOTO
THE WATER HERE, IS CLEAR

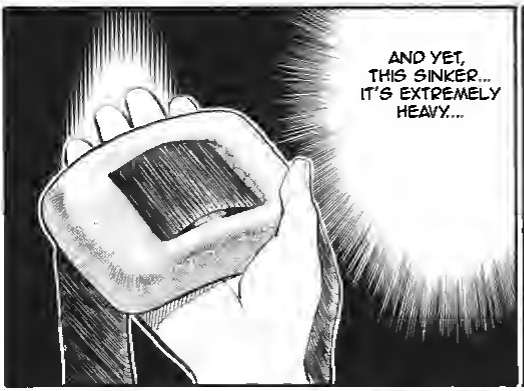
THE NEXT DAY
DAMNIT! IT'S GONE!!
THAT NOBUAKI, HE HID IT AGAIN!! IT'S PROBABLY INSIDE THE BOAT!
THE MEMENTOS WERE DEFINATELY HERE

I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
HUH?
IT'S MIKI-SAN
THERE HE IS!!

TATSUKI, FIND A BOAT FOR US!
!?
!?
AH!
ドドドド
AS I THOUGHT!
AND WITH A PICTURE LIKE THIS...

!?
WHY... IS SHE SO IMPORTANT TO YOU....
I NEVER NOTICED IT BEFORE
THERE'S A HOLE IN THE BCD.....
ドクン
THE BCD IS A JACKET INTENDED TO PROVIDE BUOYANCY...
IF THERE'S A HOLE IN IT SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO RISE TO THE SURFACE

#!?!#
#!?!#


AND YET, THIS SINKER... IT'S EXTREMELY HEAVY...

KEIKO-SAN HAS A SIMILAR BODY TYPE, AS I DO
SHE SHOULD BE USING THE SAME TYPE OF SINKER WEIGHT, AS ME....

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ドン

WITH THIS SINKER, AND A HOLE IN HER BCD
SHE'LL BE DRAGGED DOWN...

AND HE INTENDS TO THROW AWAY THE EVIDENCE!!
SO NOBUAKI REALLY DID KILL KEIKO-SAN .....
I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE!!
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DAMNIT!!
MIKI!?
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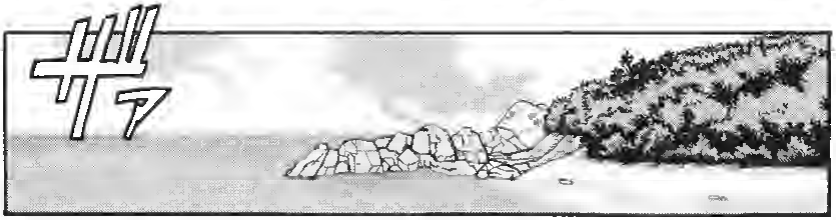
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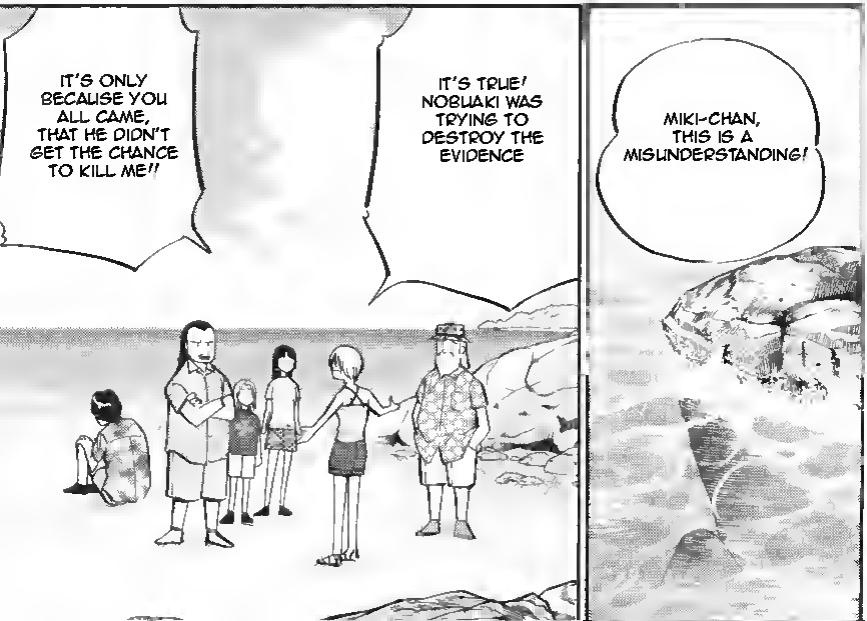
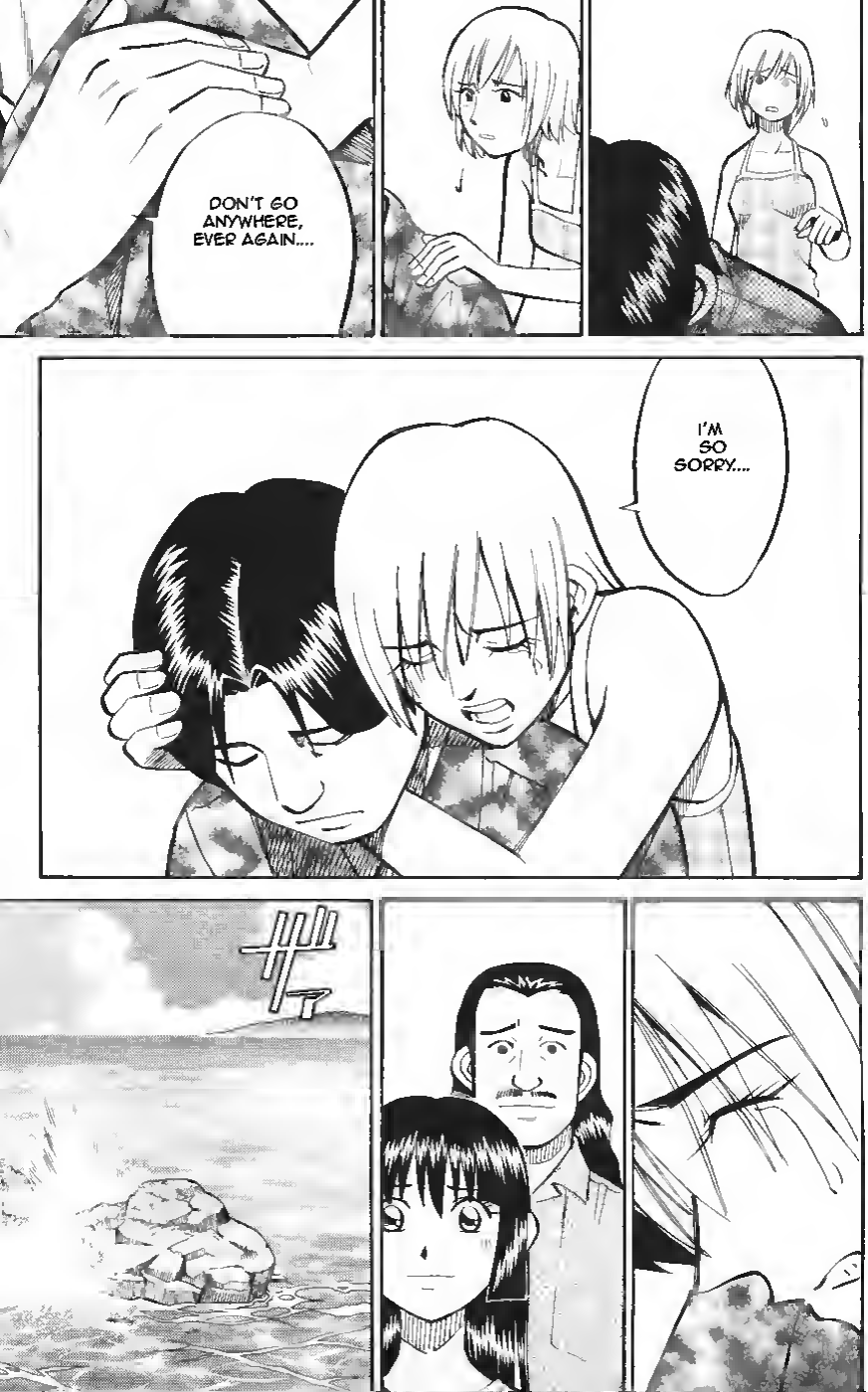
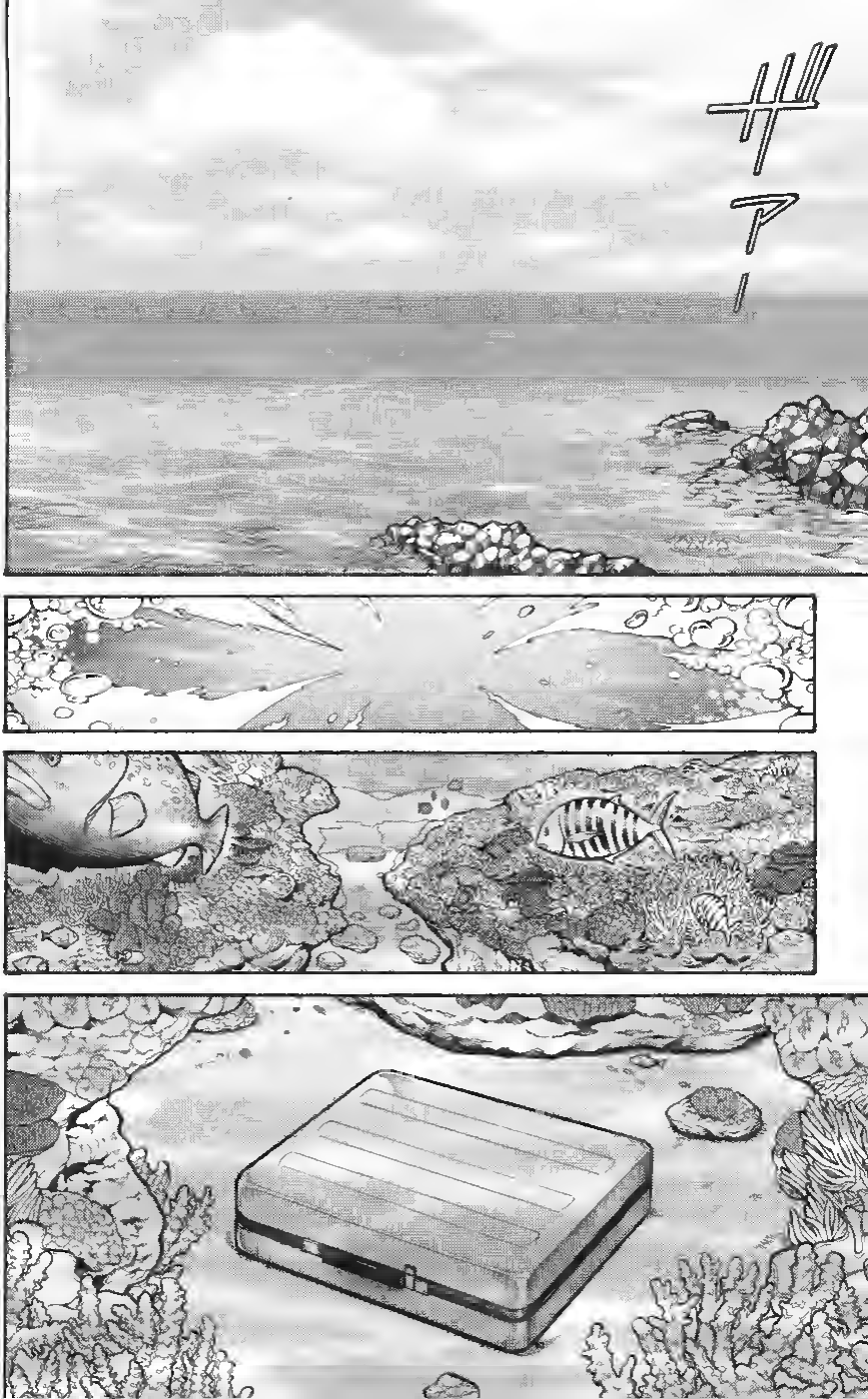

IT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU ALL CAME, THAT HE DIDN'T GET THE CHANCE TO KILL ME!!
IT'S TRUE! NOBUAKI WAS TRYING TO DESTROY THE EVIDENCE
MIKI-CHAN, THIS IS A MISUNDERSTANDING!

IT PROBABLY GOT THERE WHEN KEIKO-CHAN WAS ADRIFT!
LOOK! THERE'S A HOLE IN HER BCD!!
SORRY.. BUT I'M NOT FEELING WELL.....
NOBUAKI, SAY SOMETHING .....
I HAD THIS BAD FEELING THAT MAYBE.. MIKI WOULD DIE THIS TIME....
SEE!? NOBUAKI LOVES YOU.....
BUT...!!
SIGH...

I HAD KEPT QUIET, BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO FEEL WEIRD OR ANYTHING, BUT...
ALRIGHT, FINE! I'LL TELL YOU
WHAT!?
YOU'RE AN EXACT DOUBLE OF KEIKO-CHAN, WHO DIED

B...BUT HER PICTURE...
NOT YOUR FACES, IT'S YOUR ATMOSPHERE....
THAT'S WHY, WHEN YOU TWO GOT MARRIED, I WAS REALLY RELEIVED
I THOUGHT HE HAD RETURNED TO HIS OLD SELF AGAIN
IT'S NOT A LIE, NOBUAKI REALLY DOES LOVE YOU, MIKI-CHAN
AND HE DIDN'T KILL KEIKO-CHAN, EITHER


DON'T GO ANYWHERE, EVER AGAIN....
I'M SO SORRY....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AS I THOUGHT, IT'S TOO HEAVY....
I'M REGRETFUL ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED, TOO
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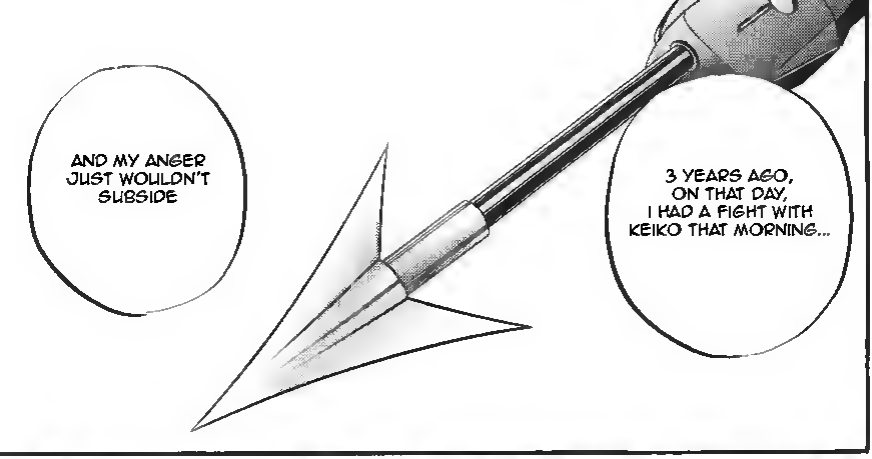
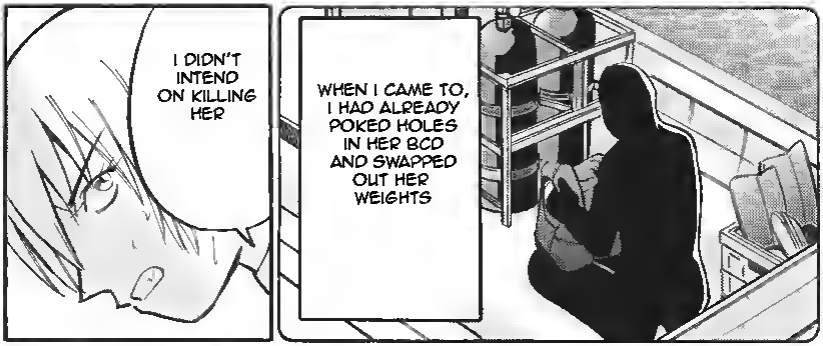
WHY.....


AND MY ANGER JUST WOULDN'T SUBSIDE
3 YEARS AGO, ON THAT DAY, I HAD A FIGHT WITH KEIKO THAT MORNING...


I DIDN'T INTEND ON KILLING HER
WHEN I CAME TO, I HAD ALREADY POKED HOLES IN HER BCD AND SWAPPED OUT HER WEIGHTS

I TRULY AM REGRETFUL OF WHAT HAPPENED
OF COURSE SHE WOULD DIE, IF YOU DID SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!!

WHY DID YOU GO BACK TO GET HER THINGS?

I WANTED TO KNOW WHAT REALLY HAPPENED
YOU TRULY ARE....
SIMILAR TO KEIKO
!?
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH!

KEIKO-SAN'S PICTURES, TOLD US WHAT HAPPENED
WH... WHY ARE YOU HERE...?
THE WATERS AROUND THE EXTINCTIVE MIGRATION PICTURES, WERE MURKY
BUT THE PICTURE WITH THE HUMPBACK WHALE, IS CLEAR
THIS IS PROBABLY BECAUSE THE FLOW OF CURRENTS ABOVE AND BELOW, WERE DIFFERENT
AND THE LOWER CURRENTS, FLOWED TOWARS THE OCEAN FLOOR

THIS IS A DANGEROUS CURRENT, THAT PULLS DIVERS TO THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN
H...HOW DID YOU KNOW....
AND LEFT KEIKO-SAN TO DIE
YOU KNEW THAT THOSE CURRENTS WERE THERE
YOU HAVEN'T MOVED AN INCH FROM THE ROPE
THE LAST PICTURE THAT KEIKO-SAN TOOK

EVEN THOUGH YOU MIRACULOUSLY SAW A HUMPBACK WHALE
YOU DIDN'T EVEN ATTEMPT FOLLOW IT, OR BRING UP YOUR CAMERA TO TAKE A PICTURE...
IF YOU WERE TRULY A DIVER, THEN THIS IS SOMETHING THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE!
YOUR HEAD WAS FULL OF KEIKO-SAN, AND HER BEING PULLED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN, TO HER DEATH

KEIKO-SAN, NEVER LET GO OF THE HINT THAT WOULD LEAD...
TO HER KILLER....
WE DON'T HAVE ANY EVIDENCE THAT YOU KILLED HER, BUT....
YOUR CURRENT ACTIONS, SPEAKS FOR ITSELF
カタ
カタ

I COULDN'T THINK STRAIGHT
MY HEAD WAS FULL OF RAGE AFTER THE FIGHT....
NOBUAKI! YOU....
BUT IT WAS TOO LATE...
I FRANTICALLY SEARCHED
WHEN I HAD FIGURED OUT WHAT I HAD DONE, SHE WAS ALREADY GONE....
THE CURRENT HAD ALREADY SWEPT IT ALL AWAY
BOTH HER... AND ME....

—Op.21:死滅回遊(しめつかいゆう)　完(かん)—

Abortive migration end

AIZEN HERE

FINALLY, ANOTHER VOLUME FINISHED!

ENJOY :)

Op.19
太陽とフォークロア〈前編〉・・・・月刊少年マガジン2008年4月号掲載
The Sun and a Folklore

Op.19
太陽とフォークロア〈後編〉・・・・月刊少年マガジン2008年5月号掲載
The Sun and a Folklore

Op.20
メタモルフォーゼ・・・・月刊少年マガジン2008年6月号掲載
The Metamorphosis

Op.21
死滅回遊・・・・月刊少年マガジン2008年7月号掲載
Abortive migration

世にも奇妙な化石の競演

「見てもらいたいものがある」と古生物学者ヘラ・コルバートに言われ、ゴビ砂漠を訪れた森羅と立樹。そこで目にしたものは、**〝ヒトと恐竜が隣り合っている〟**という不思議な化石だった。森羅は化石の謎を解いてほしいと頼まれる。

ヒトと恐竜が同時代に存在したとでもいうのか、はたまた誰かの悪戯か……。

他三篇を収録！

C.M.B.
森羅博物館の事件目録

KC10巻
2009年1月中旬
発売予定！

加藤元浩
MOTOHIRO KATOU

講談社コミックス　KCGM1167

C.M.B.森羅博物館の事件目録⑨

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